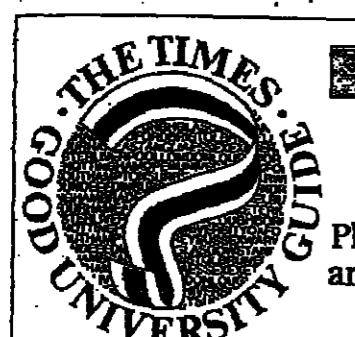




30P

No. 65,580

WEDNESDAY MAY 15 1996



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Equipment tainted with explosive

Lab tests cast doubt on IRA convictions

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

AT LEAST 12 people may have been wrongly convicted of terrorist offences on the strength of tests at a government laboratory where equipment was contaminated with explosives, the Home Office disclosed yesterday.

Michael Howard has ordered an investigation into a series of bombing convictions, which could include some of the most high-profile IRA trials of the past seven years. Among the cases expected to be reviewed are those of Robert Fyers and Hugh Jack, who were found guilty of conspiring to cause explosions and Sean McNulty, who was jailed for 25 years for bombing oil and gas installations.

The Home Secretary called for the review after traces of the explosive RDX, a substance found in Semtex, were discovered in a key piece of machinery two months ago when a scientist split a sample during a routine check at the Forensic Explosives Laboratory near Sevenoaks in Kent.

Experts said last night that the chance of contamination of samples was minute, but they admitted that the potential for a miscarriage of justice could not be discounted.

The disclosure is a big embarrassment for the Government, especially as doubt over scientific evidence have been a key element in a series of miscarriages of justice including the cases of the Birmingham Six, the Maguire Seven and Judith Ward.

Mr Howard said yesterday that the prospects of a miscarriage of justice was extremely

small, but he was determined not to take the risk. "We are going to have an independent investigation to make sure that if there is any case in which a suspect sample of this kind formed part of the evidence it is looked at again."

The Home Secretary was criticised, however, for making his announcement in a written parliamentary answer rather than in a Commons statement. Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, said he would demand an emergency statement today. He said: "It is preposterous that Mr Howard chose to slip this out by way of a written answer rather than making a full statement to MPs. His handling of this has been inept given the seriousness of the issue."

The Home Office was unable to provide exact details of the number of convictions that might be affected. Thirty-eight people have been jailed since 1989 under the Explosives Substances Act, although some cases would have involved explosives other than Semtex and would have been supported by other evidence.

In his written answer, Mr Howard admitted that a number of terrorist cases being referred back to the Court of Appeal.

The explosives contamination involved a small amount — not more than 30 microgrammes — of the explosive RDX, one of the main components of the explosive Semtex, he said.

It was detected in a part of a laboratory centrifuge which

was probably contaminated on its arrival at the Forensic Explosives Laboratory in 1989. By normal standards the explosive detected was tiny, but nevertheless should not have been there. There is a small theoretical possibility that any casework sample showing RDX traces may have been affected by the centrifuge.

Brian Caddy, professor of forensic science at Strathclyde University, is to carry out the inquiry, which will look at the chances of samples being contaminated, the paperwork of all cases in which RDX traces were found, and the extent to which forensic evidence helped to secure a conviction.

The laboratory, which is the only one of its kind, has carried out tests on some 500 separate samples taken from suspects, their property and the scene of explosions since 1989.

A number of tests proved negative and others led to no convictions, but findings of traces of RDX are believed to have formed part of the prosecution case in a series of prosecutions.

Pat Doherty, the vice-president of Sinn Fein, said: "It seems incredible that the same method of forensic testing can be used for seven years without it being scrutinised. Michael Howard's admission that these cases go back over seven years also raises the question of how long did the British Government know that evidence in these cases were false."

It was detected in a part of a laboratory centrifuge which

arrived at Waterloo at 12.12, one minute early, to the relief of all concerned.

M and Mme Chirac were greeted at platform 24 by Princess Margaret, who welcomed them with a breezy "bonjour". After meeting the necessary railway officials, the royal party travelled in two cars to Horse Guards and the full-scale official welcome.

Horse Guards is more or less permanently set out with thousands of seats for tourists to watch the Trooping the Colour ceremony. Yesterday only a few hundred of the seats were filled, making it look like a second-division football stadium when the first team is playing away.

President Chirac greeted the Queen with a long, slow handshake and some intimate conversation. His wife, a footstep behind, did not curtsey, although a momentary twitch in her left knee suggested that she had at least thought about it.

The Queen wore a lavender blue wool coat with swing back and mandarin-style collar. Palace officials will never name the designer although yesterday's was undoubtedly Ian Thomas. The French made no secret of the fact that Mme Chirac was wearing Karl Lagerfeld: a beige and ivory tweed jacket worn over a black crepe skirt with handbag and straw hat.

Accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, M Chirac inspected a guard of honour provided by the Irish Guards.

and Paddy Ashdown and he and Mme Chirac paid a 15-minute call on Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

Last night the Queen entertained the Chiracs to a state banquet in the ballroom at Buckingham Palace, where the main course was rack of lamb served with spring vegetables and asparagus.

The Queen appeared to rule out any British pull-out from Europe when she told M. Chirac: "We will continue to stand with you in the United Nations, the European Union and Nato, as a partner with world interests." M Chirac replied: "Franco-British friendship must be a cornerstone of the construction of Europe, on which the future of our children depends."

M Chirac takes a train to a beef lunch

By ALAN HAMILTON

THE Field of the Cloth of Gold it was not. But, given the haughty indifference of capital cities to foreign nabobs, President Chirac of France attracted a very respectable crowd when he arrived in London yesterday for a three-day state visit.

Several thousand people lined the Mall, sumptuously decked out in giant Union flags and Tricolours, as the President and the Queen rode from Horse Guards to Buckingham Palace to a private lunch.

Horse Guards is more or less permanently set out with thousands of seats for tourists to watch the Trooping the Colour ceremony. Yesterday only a few hundred of the seats were filled, making it look like a second-division football stadium when the first team is playing away.

President Chirac greeted the Queen with a long, slow

Dissidents held in horror cell

By MICHAEL DYNES

TRIBAL activists, opposed to the operations of Shell in Nigeria, are being held in horrific prison conditions.

Nineteen Ogotor detainees, awaiting trial for their alleged involvement in the murder of tribal leaders, have been held for two years in Port Harcourt prison. Documents smuggled out and seen by *The Times*, bear testimony to medieval conditions.

The revelation will embarrass the Anglo-Dutch company which is today holding its annual general meetings.

Nigeria 'frame-up': page 15

Labour clash over dole for 12 months

By JILL SHERMAN
CHIEF POLITICAL
CORRESPONDENT

A NEW row has developed in the Shadow Cabinet over whether a Labour government should again make unemployment benefit available for 12 months.

Chris Smith, the Shadow Social Security Secretary, is pressing for the new Job Seekers Allowance, which replaces unemployment benefit and reduces it to six months from this October, to be paid over a full year.

Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, has argued that the move, estimated to cost £150 million, is too expensive and has asked for it to be removed from a policy document which Mr Smith had

prepared. The document, which is said to include a range of welfare to work proposals, has been put on hold and will not go to Labour's national policy forum this weekend for approval with six policy documents. It will instead merely go forward as a discussion paper.

Mr Smith is still fighting his corner to extend the benefits for unemployed people but sources say he is unlikely to win unless he can identify savings to pay for it.

"Papers are always being filled by the Treasury," one party source said. "It would be unusual if a document containing a spending commitment had not been filled."

Mr Brown has told Mr Smith to remove a section on child benefit from his paper on

child benefit which will go to the policy forum in Manchester. Mr Smith is believed to have argued against any form of means testing or taxing of child benefit.

Mr Smith was said to be furious that Mr Brown undermined that paper, by briefing two weeks ago that Labour intended to scrap child benefit

for 16 to 18 year olds, to save £700 million.

Mr Smith, who knew nothing of the scheme till the morning it was leaked, has agreed to look again at the payments as part of a review of post-16 education. Mr Smith and David Blunkett, the Shadow Education and Employment Secretary, are studying a number of options on child benefit.

Mr Smith is keen on channelling some of the savings to

encourage poorer families to keep their children at school after 16. One option is to

increase allowances for poorer families from the present £10.80 weekly rate for child benefit to about £20, while removing it altogether for richer families or taxing it for higher income groups.

Mr Smith will share a platform with Mr Brown, Mr Blunkett and Tony Blair today when Labour announces its £1.5 billion deal to eradicate youth unemployment. Mr Blair will unveil new plans to abolish the Government's Youth Training programme and use the £550 million savings to replace it with a new Target 2000 training scheme. Labour's aim is to ensure that all youngsters develop certain basic numeracy and literacy skills by the time they are 18.

Mr Blunkett, who has drawn up the scheme with Stephen Byers, a Shadow Employment Minister, will today pledge that Labour will offer employment, training and education opportunities for 600,000 people under 25.

Germans lay ground for Wembley final

By DAVID MADDOCK

THERE is a question raised at some stage by every football supporter whose memory of the 1996 World Cup final has dimmed. Why, they ask, does Germany win everything? The answer, it seems, lies in the preparation.

They had booked a luxurious Manchester hotel for the European Championship, beginning on June 8, even before the qualifying campaign. Now the Germans have had a pitch built at the cost of £10,000 to allow them to train within the grounds.

The training surface has been built to the exact proportions of the Wembley pitch and covered with the same turf, which will be cut to the same length. This is despite the fact that they are only likely

to play on the real Wembley turf if they reach the final.

"We have been preparing for these championships from even before the last competition was completed four years ago," a spokesman for the German Football Federation explained.

Risk is not a concept they will entertain in their diet either. They will eat no British beef. The team will munch their way through 90lb of meat a day during the championship, all of it imported from a Bavarian butcher.

An entire wing of the hotel has been booked for the 60-strong party for three weeks. A satellite has been installed to beam German programmes into the players' rooms, and no doubt towels have already been placed beside the leisure club's luxury pool.

Charlton's roving role: page 50



"I'm not playing truant, I can't get in"

John Major promised yesterday that the Government would fund improved security for schools..... Page 6

BREITLING
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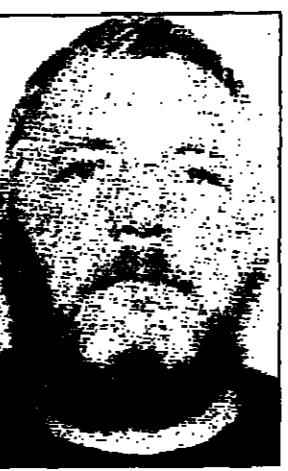
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CPS to review cases after contaminated lab test throws into doubt at least a dozen IRA convictions



Terrorists whose cases could be re-examined: Sean McNulty, Feilim O Hadhmaill, Robert Fryers, Vincent Wood, Patrick Hayes and Denis Kinsella

The terrorists who could go free

By FRANCES GIBB
AND RICHARD DUCE

LEADING IRA terrorists jailed for horrific attacks on mainland Britain could have their convictions quashed after the inquiry into contaminated equipment at the Government's Fort Halstead laboratory.

The Crown Prosecution Service is expected to conduct its own preliminary review of at least 12 terrorist cases potentially affected by the contamination of evidence.

But even if contamination is found, the convictions would not necessarily be considered unsafe. Each case will depend on how central the explosives evidence was and the strength of other evidence put during the trial.

It is likely to be some months before a report is published by Brian Caddy, professor of forensic science at Strathclyde University, who has been appointed by the Home Office to head an independent inquiry.

Professor Caddy is no stranger to dealing with miscarriages of justice: he advised the Birmingham Six and the Maguire family during their long battles to clear their names on explosives convictions. He is widely acknowledged as the foremost scientist in his field.

THE PRISONERS

In the meantime, the CPS, which is refusing to name any of the prisoners affected, is to conduct its own review. A spokeswoman said: "We will look at the files of those we think may be involved. But before considering the legal implications, we will await Professor Caddy's findings. It is not until that point that we are really able to look at the cases from the legal point of view, to see whether any evidence has been contaminated."

The cases likely to be reviewed are:

■ Feilim O Hadhmaill, who was jailed at the Old Bailey for 25 years in November 1994 after he was seen unloading a car containing 37lb of Semtex and bomb-making equipment.

O Hadhmaill, from Belfast, was regarded by police as the most senior IRA terrorist on the mainland Britain.

■ Robert Fryers, 44, who was jailed in January 1995 for 25 years and Hugh Jack, 37, who was jailed for 20 years, after being found guilty of conspiring to cause explosions. Fryers was arrested in July 1993 as he stood at a bus stop near Staples Corner, McNulty, who was born in northwest London, with a bomb in a holdall.

■ Gerard Mackin, 33, and Derek Doherty, 32, who were both convicted in October 1994 of conspiracy to cause an explosion. They were found to have taken part in a plot in which 12 bombs were planted in seven days.

■ Sean McNulty, 26, who was jailed for 25 years in August 1994 for bombing oil and gas installations on Tyneside. Traces of Semtex were said to have been found inside his car but he was also convicted on other footprints found at the scene. McNulty, who was born in

England, had a passionate hatred for Britain and, when sentenced, told the judge: "No problem."

■ Ian Taylor and Patrick Hayes, two English "weekend revolutionaries" who were jailed for 30 years in May 1994, Taylor on eight terrorist charges and Hayes on 11. They graduated from left-wing demonstrations to become leading IRA activists.

Hayes was linked to two lorry bombs, each packed with more than a ton of explosive left at Canary Wharf and behind Tottenham Court Road in London. Only a faint

trace of Semtex was found at the scene. Hayes and Denis Kinsella were also found guilty of trying to murder PC Mark Toker after planting the bomb.

Police believe that the men were part of a team that carried out 25 attacks in London from autumn 1992 to early 1993.

■ Denis Kinsella, Sean Kinsella and Pat McGlynn, who were convicted for the bomb attack on Warrington gasworks in 1993. McGlynn, who led the attack, was jailed for 35 years. Denis Kinsella was jailed for 25 years and Sean Kinsella, his uncle, was jailed for 20 years for possessing Semtex with intent.

McGlynn and Denis Kinsella were also found guilty of trying to murder PC Mark Toker after planting the bomb.

of the kidnapping of a motorist when they abandoned their escape vehicle and of possessing a gun.

■ Vincent Wood, 29, an English sales executive, who was jailed for 25 years at the Old Bailey in July 1993 after he stored 17.5 kilograms of Semtex at his home in east London. Also found was a map pinpointing John Major's home in his Huntingdon constituency. Police believe they foiled an IRA plot to assassinate the Prime Minister. Wood's sentence was later reduced to 17 years on appeal.

■ Damian McComb, 22, and Liam O'Dwyer, 28, who were jailed in 1990 for 30 years at the Old Bailey after being arrested in 1989 as they went to collect an arms and explosives cache hidden at a remote Welsh coastal site.

■ Nicholas Mullen, 42, of Wood Green, north London, who was jailed for 30 years at the Old Bailey in June 1990. He was arrested after the chance discovery of a bomb factory at a flat in Clapham, south London, described during the trial as one of the biggest found in Britain. He was found guilty among other charges of conspiracy to cause explosions and aiding and abetting a crime under the Explosive Substances Act.

Although they have been involved in some of the most sensitive terrorist cases of recent times, their work has largely gone unnoticed by the public.

"That is on purpose," a Whitehall insider said yesterday. "It is one of those areas where one doesn't tend to broadcast very much for obvious security reasons."

The laboratory was recently called in to sift through the wreckage of the double-decker bus blasted by an IRA bomb in February in the centre of London, killing the bomber and injuring eight others. The twisted remnants were painstakingly reassembled behind the wire.

Some of the same experts worked on the wreckage of the Pan Am 747 which crashed on Lockerbie in 1988. The collected remains were transported to Sevenoaks to be rebuilt and studied for clues to the origin of the bomb that brought it down.

They were instrumental in the case of Judith Ward, jailed in 1974 for the M62 coach

bombing in which 12 people

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Court of Appeal. They discov-

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The laboratory was estab-

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In 1991 Fort Halstead was

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of the Defence Research

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This has been expanded to

the Defence Evaluation and

Research Agency. The forensic

laboratory is an element of the

Protection and Life Sciences

Division.

About 40 people are em-

ployed in the laboratory, 30 of

them frontline scientists and

the rest back-up staff.

THE LAB

THE Royal Armament Research Defence Establishment near Sevenoaks, Kent, is one of the most important but least known Defence Ministry institutions. Behind high barbed-wire fences bristling with guards and electronic security, 12,000 staff work on the research, design and development of mainly conventional weapons.

Thirty of the country's leading ballistics and explosives experts work in the Fort Halstead laboratory, using state-of-the-art equipment to trace and analyse the minutest quantity of explosive material.

Successive Home Secretaries have called upon their expertise after a series of miscarriages of justice blamed in part on shoddy scientific investigations.

Although they have been involved in some of the most sensitive terrorist cases of recent times, their work has largely gone unnoticed by the public.

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Persian cat casts owner in the role of international criminal

By BILL FROST
AND PETER FOSTER

A PERSIAN cat was responsible for casting a wealthy young businesswoman from Latvia in the role of an international criminal, the High Court was told yesterday.

Suspicion was raised when Vira Kokorevica, 22, a company director, arrived at Gatwick last September with the cat, called Dana, the court heard. Tom Crox-

ford, representing Miss Kokorevica, said: "Her obvious wealth and East European background seemed to make officials think that like Blofeld, the cat-loving arch-villain in James Bond, she was linked to organised crime."

Mr Croxford described Miss Kokorevica as "a rich, young eastern European travelling with a cat — nothing more" who intended to stay at Claridge's in London until the £1.2 million house she had

bought was redecorated. Immigration officials were worried about her ostentatious wealth after a luggage search showed that she had huge receipts for jewellery and a chauffeur-driven Bentley was waiting for her at the airport. They refused entry and contacted the organised crime squad.

"Making her into some Blofeld-type character was something the immigration authorities should not have done," Mr Croxford said. He

said there was no evidence to support their suspicions and the decision to exclude her was unreasonable. Miss Kokorevica was a company director of Vigo Stores (UK) Ltd, which leased luxury cars, and her cat was her constant companion. She was just a frequent traveller "with a very high lifestyle" earning a salary up to £130,000.

Rejecting the submissions, Mr Justice Latham said the immigration authority's actions were justified.

"Business people don't usually come with cats. It is as simple as that," he said. Then there was the purchase of a substantial property and the chauffeur.

After interviewing her in Russian, admittedly not her native language, an immigration official decided that her declared sources of income "did not sit easily with her lifestyle" and she appeared reluctant to identify business colleagues. Miss Kokorevica was allowed to

stay in Britain only until the hearing. Dana has already been returned to Latvia.

Last night Miss Kokorevica ordered staff to pack a caravan of Gucci bags at her £1.2 million mock-Tudor thatched mansion, The Round House, at Loudwater, Hertfordshire. Nursing her three-month old son while contemplating her return to Latvia, she said her extraordinary affluence was commonplace in the former Soviet

Union and denied any links with Russian mafia money-laundering or any other form of skulduggery.

"It is normal for people as young as me to be wealthy these days, there is nothing sinister about it. I have done nothing wrong. It was all Dana's fault. If I had known that cats were not allowed in this country none of this would have happened. Once the officers found her in my hand luggage they were suspicious about everything."

Jilted lover reveals all with intimate letter to villagers

By A STAFF REPORTER

A MAN whose girlfriend left him and refused to let him see their baby sought revenge by sending an offensive letter to everybody in her home village revealing intimate secrets about her family.

Mike Phelan, 40, used the electoral roll to get the names and addresses of 600 villagers in Stoke Gabriel, Devon, where Kathy Holmes, 23, and Millie were living with her parents. Each was sent a copy of the insulting and sexually explicit eight-page letter.

Phelan, of Lytham St Anne's, Lancashire, was fined £1,700 by Totnes magistrates yesterday after admitting sending a malicious communication which was indecent or grossly offensive. Julian Tregillis, the magistrate, told him: "Your actions were certainly grossly offensive and indecent and they caused this lady and her family great distress and anxiety."

After the hearing, Miss Holmes said she would have liked to have seen Phelan imprisoned. "Not because I am vindictive, but I want him to see that what he did was

very wrong and caused everyone great distress."

Many villagers complained to police. One of them, Leslie Purcell, said that the letter, signed M Jones, contained grossly offensive words and a disgusting sexual content.

Chris Bennett, for the prosecution, said that the letter, "to set tongues wagging", contained gossip of Miss Holmes' private life, that of her parents and sister.

The couple met in 1991 when Phelan ran a publishing business in Paignton, Devon.

In October 1993 the couple moved to Edinburgh and the following year Miss Holmes became pregnant. But Phelan started to be increasingly possessive and the relationship ended.

Phelan made a series of telephone calls and became very angry, making wild and irrational threats and, while Miss Holmes at first was willing to allow him access to Millie, she then thought he might seek to return her.

He responded by sending her a copy of the letter he planned to distribute through

out the village and a copy of the electoral roll to prove he had the addresses.

"In it there was a large amount of gossip about her personal life, her parents' personal life and her sister's personal life. It was very intimate and caused her great distress."

"Nothing happened for a while but then, on March 15 this year, he told her he had sent them. And then, on March 18, villagers received them," he said.

Mr Purcell complained to the police about the letter. "They contained swear words that he found grossly offensive and sexual contents which he found disgusting," said Mr Bennett. "They contained delicate personal details, medical conditions and sexual proclivities and activities of the persons concerned."

The letter, which was not read out in court, also gave the address and telephone numbers of the family members in it.

Owen Evans, in mitigation, said Phelan had acted out of frustration at not being able to see his daughter. "He knew a lot of things about this young lady and her family, some of it not very pleasant," he said.

"If his motivation was to embarrass Miss Holmes, then I can tell you that after press coverage of the case, then he is just as embarrassed as Miss Holmes is," he said.

A woman resident of Stoke Gabriel said last night: "Everybody was absolutely disgusted. I do not know the girl involved and, like everybody else, just tore the letter up and threw it in the bin. It was beneath contempt."

The results of their masterclass — conducted during a recent two-week visit to Hockney's Malibu beach



Mark Hallett, holding his painting of David Hockney's Malibu beach house, edges past a portrait of Hockney at the Salt's Mill Gallery

Hockney gives students California dream

By JOE JOSEPH

WHEN the Government urged schools to pep up the standard of their teaching they probably were not expecting that four A-level art students from Bradford Grammar would go so far as to wangle a personal tutorial from David Hockney.

The reason they struck so lucky was that one of the world's greatest living painters also just happens to be a nostalgic Bradford Grammar old boy.

The results of their masterclass — conducted during a recent two-week visit to Hockney's Malibu beach

house — went on show yesterday at the Salt's Mill Gallery, near Bradford. The teenagers' work hangs next to Hockney originals.

"It is as if Picasso had asked pupils from his old school to come and join him in his château in France," John Silver, who owns the gallery and who is an old friend of Hockney, said yesterday.

"The boys did pictures of the house of David's famous dachshund, Stanley, and of Los Angeles landscapes. They also did some Hockney-style photographic 'joiners'."

A large photo-collage of the four boys with their art master, Robert

Walker, who accompanied them on their trip to Los Angeles, also hangs in the gallery. On a visit to the school Hockney had been impressed with the work of Robert Frith, Mark Hallett, Ben Walker and James Bowskill and invited them to stay with him in his expatriate home.

Robert, 17, said: "We just expected to use his house and thought he would actually be in Venice. But when we arrived we walked down the stairs of his beach house and there he was to welcome us. He showed us all round his studio and we learnt a lot about the way he works." Ben, also 17, said: "He

took us out in his 300SL soft-top Mercedes on a ride through the San Gabriel mountains known as the 'Wagner run'. The drive is fantastic, all around the windy mountain roads, to the accompaniment of Wagner's *Ride of the Valkyries*, which is blasted from speakers beneath the back seats. It was the most fantastic experience. I think it has inspired us all."

Mr Walker said: "It was two weeks in paradise, quite incredible. David is a very kind man and couldn't have done more for us. The lads haven't stopped talking about it and the work is just pouring out of them."

WPC 'made ill by sex taunts at work'

By PAUL WILKINSON

A WOMAN police constable was driven to the verge of illness by the blatant sexual comments of colleagues, an industrial tribunal was told yesterday.

They made lewd gestures, hinted she was having an affair with a fellow officer and jokingly suggested to a glue-sniffer who had been arrested that he have sex with her in the back of a police van.

Karen Wade, 27, a WPC with the West Yorkshire force, is now on sick leave through stress, the hearing at Leeds was told. She is claiming sexual harassment by PC Dean Mountain, Sgt Paul Fountain and Sgt Ian Devey, three colleagues at the Holbeck station in Leeds.

Soon after the incident with the glue-sniffer she went on sick leave with chronic hyper-ventilation syndrome brought on by anxiety and stress. The WPC, who joined the West Yorkshire force in 1992, sobbed as she told the hearing: "I found their sexual com-

ments degrading and humiliating, especially when they called me a tart and a stripper. After a few months I began to feel as if I could do nothing right. I lost motivation and confidence. It got to the point when I didn't want to be at Holbeck."

"I tried to cope at work until I got so depressed and distressed that I went on sick leave. I was unhappy and felt unaccepted. I felt totally isolated. No one had anything to do with me I was made to feel like a total outsider."

"It got to the stage where I couldn't even open my mouth without someone poking fun at me." She said she had brought the complaint because she was on the edge of a nervous breakdown. "It is an unwritten rule in the police force not to say anything against your colleagues, otherwise you will be ostracised. I could not even trust my immediate supervisors with my complaints."

The hearing continues.

Australians ready to deport serial killer from Glasgow

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT, AND ROGER MAYNARD

AUSTRALIA is likely to deport to Britain a murderer from Glasgow who has killed four people and once said he would kill seven people.

Yesterday Glasgow City Council confirmed that the authorities in New South Wales had been in touch over the deportation of Archie "Mad Dog" McCafferty, 47, who came before the Offender Review Board in Sydney this week. McCafferty, originally from the city's Woodside area, has served 22 years in jail for multiple murder. The week he was released he was paroled to Australia.

McCafferty, then aged 24, controlled a gang of teenagers; their first murder victim was a drunk whom McCafferty

stabbed seven times. Two nights later in the cemetery where his son was buried, McCafferty shot dead a miner with seven children. That night the gang murdered a driving instructor.

McCafferty vowed to kill again and one of the gang, believing he was next, contacted the police.

He was given 14 years for manslaughter for killing a fellow inmate in Parramatta jail, Sydney, in 1981.

This week he told the board he was rehabilitated, apologised for what he had done and said he did not wish to hurt anyone. His parole officer said McCafferty's "resocialisation" had been exceptional.

A spokesman for Berrima jail near Sydney said yesterday: "McCafferty should know his fate in a couple of weeks. If the Offender Review Board give him parole they may simply set a date. When he faces a deportation order, he will be put on the first available flight home."

Breast scar claim is settled

By BILL FROST

A WOMAN who felt violated by scars left from cosmetic breast surgery ten years ago settled her damages claim for £27,500 yesterday.

Julie Allen had mastectomy — a skin-tightening procedure — to improve the appearance of her breasts after her weight had fluctuated from the anorexia and bulimia she had as a teenager.

She claimed in the High Court that Antony Wallace, the consultant plastic surgeon who carried out the operation at St Bartholomew's Hospital, central London, in September 1986, said the scars around her breasts would be thin white lines. Mrs Allen, 32, of Earls Colne, Essex, told Mr Justice Potts that she had no warning that she would be left with wide, lumpy scars that would bleed for months.

The action was stayed by consent with the payment of the damages by City and Hackney Health Authority, which denied liability.

Bishop may leave his Faith behind

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the Church of England's leading opponents of women priests yesterday offered to resign as head of the most prominent traditionalist group, Forward in Faith, on his appointment as bishop.

The Rev John Broadhurst, who will be consecrated the new Bishop of Fulham later this year, said some members of the traditionalists' umbrella group, which has led the opposition to women priests in the Church, would be unhappy at having a bishop as their head.

Some members of Forward in Faith, which has been accused of creating a church within a church, regard themselves as effectively out of communion with the main body of the Church because of women priests.

The Rev John Broadhurst, as Bishop of Fulham, will take responsibility for parishes in the London, Rochester and Southwark dioceses which cannot accept the ordination of women priests.

"One consequence of the ordination of women has been the straining and sometimes breaking of internal relationships," he said. "It is my belief that both sides on this difficult and complex issue must give each other enough space to live with dignity and confidence. I have no intention of presiding over a ghetto."

Fr Broadhurst, as Bishop of Fulham, will take responsibility for parishes in the London, Rochester and Southwark dioceses which cannot accept the ordination of women priests.

"There are some people who would have serious problems about having a bishop who has received communion from the Archbishop of Canterbury as their chairman."

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"One consequence of the ordination of women has been the straining and sometimes breaking of internal relationships," he said. "It is my belief that both sides on this difficult and complex issue must give each other enough space to live with dignity and confidence. I have no intention of presiding over a ghetto."

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Car worked to strike over French

Ferrets to the rescue at ancient castle

By Alice Buck

AN army of ferrets drafted in to save an old Norman castle under threat by the rising sea levels of the North Sea. The rabbits of the network of walls and ramparts of Sandgate, Kent, that date from the 11th century, damaged a network of herb gardens.

A report for Sandgate Council's environmental services officer last week says the rabbits, causing "incalculable damage", were the result of a number of "large and small holes" in the hazard for the 500 people who visit the castle.

A council spokesman said: "We have been told that the wildlife park area would be the most suitable solution. Gassing and trapping would be off the table as the castle area is a public seven days a week. The best time will be when before the rabbits breed in the spring and when there are young in the winter."

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Car workers ready to strike in row over French leave

BY KEVIN EASON, MOToring EDITOR

NEARLY 3,000 car workers are threatening to strike because their company wants them to take all of August as holiday.

Peugeot has told workers at its factory at Ryton in Warwickshire that it wants to close the plant for the whole month, extending their time off from three weeks to four, in a row, in line with the rest of the company in France.

However, the extra week would be taken from a traditional shutdown in the West Midlands in September, when workers say their wives and families will also be on holiday.

Employees are voting on industrial action and could choose to walk out for the traditional September week if they are forced into the long August closure. The result should be known by Monday.

Peugeot said yesterday that workers could take holiday or statutory days in September, or days off in lieu of bank holiday working if they needed the extra time off that month.

Ferrets to the rescue at ancient castle

By MICHAEL HORNBY

AN army of ferrets is to be drafted in to save a 900-year-old Norman castle from being undermined by the burrowing activities of a rampant population of rabbits.

The rabbits have dug a network of warrens in the ramparts of Stafford Castle, a scheduled ancient monument that dates from 1070, and also damaged a replica of a medieval herb garden.

A report for Stafford Borough Council's recreation and amenities committee this week says the rabbits are also causing "increasing damage to buried archaeological deposits", while the "growing number of warrens, divots and small holes" is a safety hazard for the 50,000 people who visit the castle each year.

A council spokesman said: "We have been advised by the wildlife people that ferrets would be the most humane solution. Gassing and shooting would be difficult because the castle site is open to the public seven days a week. The best time will be next winter before the rabbits have bred and when there will be no young in the warrens."

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plants. How can they plan a family holiday when Peugeot has brought in a system totally out of line with everyone else in the Midlands? Four weeks off in a row is ridiculous when your partner stands no chance of getting the same holiday."

The move would put Peugeot out of step with its British counterparts, such as Jaguar, Rover, Ford and Vauxhall, where workers are sent on holiday for two weeks at the end of July and work through much of August.

But Peugeot has been trying to move closer to the working patterns of its French parent for the past few years. August is the traditional month for holidays in France, with Peugeot's big factories closing for the month. When Ryton closed during July, the factory had to stock up with components during June so that it would have supplies when its French factories were closed.

Peugeot said: "Carrying that much stock was expensive and a waste of time and effort. Now we can work when our French suppliers work."

Ex-leader savages anti-hunt league

By MICHAEL HORNBY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

THE former executive director of the League Against Cruel Sports has made an outspoken attack on the organisation in *The Field*, the hunting magazine.

Jim Barrington says a ban on hunting could increase cruelty to foxes and accuses the league of being more concerned with ideological purity than animal welfare. Mr Barrington was forced to leave the league last December after he suggested in an interview with *The Field* that abolition of *terrier* work — the practice of sending dogs after foxes that have gone to ground — could give hunting a new lease of life.

Since his expulsion, Mr Barrington and other former league members who left with him have set up a new organisation, Wildlife Network, which is working with the British Field Sports Society and other pro-hunting and countryside groups to prevent cruelty to wildlife.

"I think we can make more progress by bringing people of different views together and establishing commonsense middle ground," he said yesterday. "We have got to get away from the idea, still held by extremists on both sides,

that only total victory will do." In the article, Mr Barrington accuses the league of refusing to recognise that a ban on fox-hunting would lead to more landowners and gamekeepers shooting and snaring the animals to protect sheep and gamebirds. Many injured foxes would die a lingering death instead of being killed quickly by hounds, he says.

"Talking to the other side, or even suggesting unpalatable possibilities, is [seen as] tantamount to heresy," he writes. "But principles are useless if they cannot be transferred into reality — in fact downright hypocritical if something else suffers while your principles remain intact."

Mr Barrington also says it is naive to assume that a ban on hunting is a foregone conclusion under a future Labour government.

John Bryant, the league's head of press and research, said: "This is absolute nonsense. Why should we compromise our position when for the first time we have overwhelming support in the Commons for an end to hunting and the prospect of a government committed to force the necessary legislation through?"

17 tortoises snatched from park

By RUSSELL JENKINS

ANIMAL rustlers knew exactly what they were looking for when they raided Riber Castle wildlife park. They ignored rare exotic breeds and headed straight for the tortoises.

The thieves climbed an 8ft fence surrounding the grounds near Matlock, Derbyshire, and expertly removed a pane of glass to snatch 17 assorted male and females emerging from hibernation.

The raid, carried out with commando precision, is the latest sign that tortoise rustling is big business in the world of *chelonia* collecting.

More than 100 miles away, Timothy the tortoise, a much-loved family pet, was snatched overnight from the garden of his terrace home in Gateshead, Tyne and Wear. The Lawley family were left bereft.

For Riber Castle the loss of 17 tortoises meant the end of an ambitious breeding programme to boost numbers.

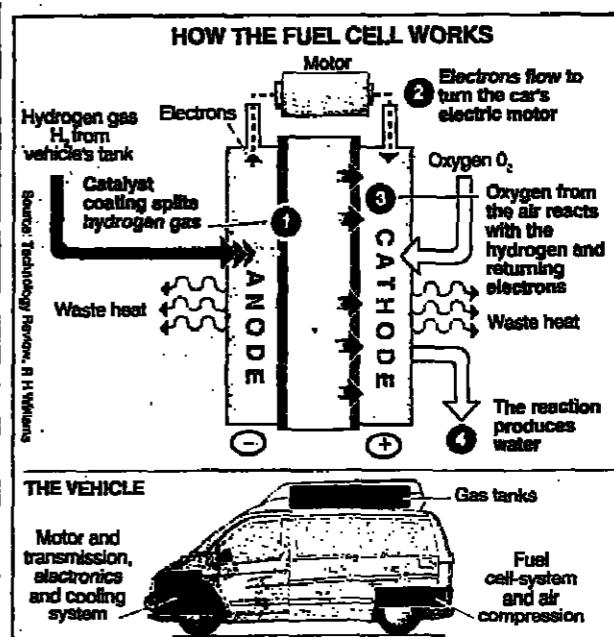
Theft has spiralled since the import of common European tortoises was banned in 1985. Prices have risen with their scarcity and a thriving black market exists.

Professor Robert Winston

Professor Robert Winston, director of Hammersmith Hospital's in-vitro fertilisation clinic, asks us to make clear that his decision to treat an HIV-positive woman was supported by all his department's senior consultants (report, yesterday), and that the charitable funding used was given expressly for the particular patient concerned.



A Daimler-Benz technician working on fuel cells. The method, devised in Britain, uses hydrogen and oxygen from the air to turn an electric motor



THE VEHICLE

Motor and transmission, electronics and cooling system

Fuel cell system and air compression

Breathtaking ... the vehicle powered by air

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE first car powered by air was unveiled yesterday. Hailed as a breakthrough in pollution-free motoring, it uses technology pioneered more than 150 years ago.

Daimler-Benz, the German carmaker, has developed a vehicle powered by fuel cells, which use hydrogen and oxygen from the air to turn an electric motor. Their only emission is water vapour.

Dr Gary Acres, a fuel cell expert with the British company Johnson Matthey, said that the new vehicle signalled the end of the internal combustion engine. The six-seater car, called a multipurpose vehicle, uses hundreds of fuel cells packed into a suitcase-sized compartment to reach a top speed of 70mph.

The method was first demonstrated in 1839 by Sir William Grove at the Royal Institution in London. Until now the size and power generated from fuel cells have made them impractical for cars. Dr Acres said: "But they have now been able to pack a fuel cell with the same power density as the internal combustion engine... this is quite an achievement."

Daimler-Benz predicts a mass-produced version by 2010. The date could be even earlier, as General Motors in America and Mazda in Japan are eager to exploit fuel cells commercially.

Johnson Matthey, whose founders assisted Sir William in his pioneering experiment, are providing the makers of the fuel cell. Ballard Power Systems of Vancouver, with

the catalysts that make them work. Dr Acres who is based at the company's research centre at Sonning Common, Oxfordshire, said it was a source of disappointment to engineers here that a British invention was being exploited

abroad. "We are providing the component technology but in the UK we are not putting together a bus or a vehicle using fuel cells. It is a disappointment," he said.

The history of the fuel cell dates back to the early days of electricity. Sir William, an electrochemist, knew that water could be split into hydrogen and oxygen, using electricity. Dr Acres said: "He wondered what would happen if you recombined hydrogen and oxygen. And, lo and behold, he found that electricity was produced. William Grove wrote to Michael Faraday [the discoverer of electromagnetism] about his findings."

Since then several attempts have been made to harness the "gas battery" technology. In 1959 a tractor developed by Allis Chalmers used the devices and in 1963 fuel cells

were used on the first Gemini space missions. BP and Shell developed prototype cars.

The renewed incentive to exploit the technology is environmental, with the main impetus coming from America and some European countries such as Germany.

Electric cars powered by batteries are proving difficult to develop. The batteries requiring recharging for several hours. They are bulky, inconvenient and have limited ranges.

By contrast, fuel cells act like mini-power stations, generating electricity from the air and any hydrogen-rich fuel, including liquid hydrogen, methanol, ethanol and even petrol. Their range is limited only to the next filling-up point. If pure hydrogen is used, the emission is water vapour.

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HOT TOPICS
A 30-page celebration of summer food, drink, fashion and style, in the Magazine

CHELSEA SHOW-OFFS
Why gardening grows and grows, in Weekend

PLUS
Vision, the seven-day TV and radio guide



Helen Sharman, who became Britain's first astronaut in space in May 1991, brings a touch of live history to local children at the opening in Widnes, Cheshire, of Catalyst, the Museum for the Chemical Industry

HOWARD BARLOW

Major's pledge for safer schools lacks details of funding

By MICHAEL HORSNELL AND PHILIP WEBSTER

JOHN MAJOR promised yesterday that the Government would fund improved security for schools in response to the murder of the London headmaster Philip Lawrence.

But ministers failed to make clear whether they would come up with new money for financing the installation of security cameras and other devices or whether it would be found from the existing £19 billion schools budget.

The Government's working group on school security, set up after the murder of Mr Lawrence last December, put forward 22 recommendations. In a report to the Department for Education and Employment, it urged an extension of police powers to search schools for weapons, widespread closed-circuit video systems and intruder alarms, together with better controlled access to premises and perimeter fencing. But a recom-

mendation that the Government should "take the earliest opportunity to make available ... substantial new money specifically earmarked for the improvement of school security" failed to secure an unequivocal financial commitment from Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary.

She accepted "in full" the recommendations but said: "The funding issues naturally need to be considered in detail in the context of wider decisions on public expenditure and we shall be consulting shortly on next year's programme."

Mr Major told the Commons that ministers had not yet had the chance to study the recommendations in full or to cost any work that might be necessary. "But we shall not be seeking delay. We shall be seeking to carry them out as speedily as practicable," he said.

He also signalled that legislation on gun controls would be put forward after the Cullen report into the slaughter at Dunblane Primary School is published. He "personally suspected" legislation would be necessary.

Tony Blair had urged the Government to look at wider aspects of behaviour in schools, adding: "The routine violence suffered by many teachers is absolutely intolerable." He promised Labour would co-operate fully in any legislation designed to make

the Government has already backed one of the reports early recommendations, supporting legislation making it an offence to carry a knife or other offensive weapon on school premises.

The final report also urges the Government to review existing police powers against intruders in schools.

One in five children carries a weapon

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

ONE in five secondary school children regularly carries an offensive weapon, according to a university research project.

In the majority of cases the weapon is a knife, but one in 50 boys aged between 13 and 15 carries a gun some of the time, a survey by the schools health education unit of Exeter University suggests.

The survey of more than 13,000 children aged 11 to 16 shows that of those who have weapons — ranging from chemical sprays to metal bars, chains, knuckledusters, broken bottles, knives and guns — 51 per cent carry them only close to home, 10 per cent to school, 11 per cent in the street and 12 per cent everywhere.

The survey was commissioned by *Dispatches*, which will show the findings on Channel 4 tonight. John Balding, head of the unit, says the results show remarkable consistency over differ-

ent types of area and school. He said: "This is Middle England and in many ways these figures may underestimate the seriousness of the problem because they don't include particularly tough inner-city areas or children who are truanting."

Professor Michael Barber of the Institute of Education said: "The evidence that has been produced is clearly breaking new ground and in that sense it is important. But I think you are also getting at a deeper issue — whether there's something going on in the attitudes of young people that neither teachers, parents nor any of the other social agencies has been able to understand."

The survey also indicates that 44.5 per cent of boys and 67.5 per cent of girls fear physical attack when they go out and 25 per cent of children have been afraid to go to school because of bullying.

Passive smoking

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CJD victim's family sues ministers over 'mad cow' advice

By CAROL MIDDLETON

A WOMAN whose mother died of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, the human form of 'mad cow' disease, launched legal action yesterday against the Government.

Illa Andrews, 23, a chef from Banbury, Oxfordshire, is seeking legal aid to pursue her claim that the Government failed in its 'duty of care' to inform the public about the dangers of eating beef. Miss Andrews, whose mother, Fannie Van Es, died aged 44 two years ago, is the first relative of a victim of CJD to attempt such a legal challenge.

David Harris, her solicitor, said that they would have to show a link existed between BSE and CJD and also that Miss Andrews's mother was eating beef after the Government said it was safe to do so.

Miss Andrews announced her intention to sue at a meeting of relatives of CJD victims in Banbury yesterday. Seventeen families attended the meeting, designed as a support forum and a means of publicising what they described as the 'shambolic' handling of the beef problem.

If Miss Andrews is successful, her case could pave the way for dozens more relatives to take up similar claims. Mr Harris, of Alexander Harris of Sale, Greater Manchester, emphasised that each case would have to be proved

Britain's slender hopes for the easing of the global ban on beef exports depend on France. The European Union's veterinary committee will consider a proposal today to allow British exports of gelatine, tallow and bull semen. France could override the opposition of Germany and other states and President Chirac is being lobbied on his London visit. But earlier this week French ministers were reluctant to support a relaxation.

individually and that Miss Andrews's challenge could take two years to come to court. He said the most that could be won in compensation was £7,500 but it was worth pursuing for the 'wider emotional consequences.'

'It is all very well for the Government to contend that there is no proven link. There are suggestions indeed that have been put in the press and the media over a considerable period of time that there is a link,' he said.

Miss Andrews said her Dutch-born mother had died within three months of showing the first symptoms of CJD. At first Ms Van Es, who was divorced from her husband, Terry Andrews, was depressed and suffered mood swings, becoming panic-stricken at the thought of

being left alone. When she developed a jerk in her right hand her children put it down to the antidepressants she was taking.

Weeks later she began to lose her memory and found it difficult to walk. Miss Andrews said: 'By the end we were doing everything for her — washing her, dressing her, feeding her. She had terrible convulsions which would knock her out of bed.'

Miss Andrews, who was accompanied by her brothers Tjark, 21, and Tjonne, 14, said the family had no idea about the disease when it was first diagnosed.

'I remember looking it up in the medical dictionaries with the doctors,' she said. 'I must admit that when someone first suggested beef to me, I thought "You must be joking. But now I'm convinced."

She said her mother ate beef 'but no more or less than anybody else. We have it twice, three, maybe four times a week, depending on what we wanted to eat that week.'

'If someone can prove to me it wasn't beef then I will accept it. But no one can.'

Miss Andrews added: 'We just can't get over the fact that we lost our perfectly healthy mother at the age of 44. We should have had a lot more years with her and the Government should have been telling people about the dangers of eating beef years ago.'



Geoffrey Cheney holds up the bullet he removed from Tenneh Cole's head

Surgeons remove bullet from girl's head

By JEREMY LAURENCE

SURGEONS removed a bullet from behind the eye of an African war orphan yesterday in a life-saving operation lasting two and a quarter hours.

Tenneh Cole, 5, from Sierra Leone, was said to be making good progress last night after the operation at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. The charity Hope and Homes for Children had arranged for Tenneh, whose name means 'God will provide', to be flown to Britain last week. Both her parents were killed in her country's civil war and she survived a three-month journey through the bush to seek help.

At a news conference, Geoffrey Cheney, a consultant surgeon, held the bullet that he had extracted from behind Tenneh's right eye where it had been lodged for 16 months. 'She is very lucky to be alive,' he said. 'The bullet could have led to a fatal infection at any time.'

'We think [the bullet] either came in through the brain or ran around under the skin and into the orbit of the eye,' Mr Cheney said. The bullet had destroyed the sight in the right eye. An infection could have ascended into the brain and caused meningitis which would have proved fatal.

Mr Cheney said he had removed as much of the infected tissue as possible. The main risk in the short term would be of infection, and Tenneh would be on antibiotics.

Meningitis death

A boy aged two from Birmingham died from meningococcal meningitis hours after admission to the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital. His family had been staying at a holiday camp in Dawlish Warren.

Shand-Kydd case

Frances Shand-Kydd, the Princess of Wales's mother, was accused at Oban Sheriff Court of driving while over the alcohol limit and not providing a breath test. There was no plea. The case was adjourned.

Operatic twist

Robert Corner, 36, who badly twisted his ankle while playing the lead role in a local production of *Pirates of Penzance* at Long Eaton, Derbyshire, has won £4,750 from the insurers of the scenery makers.

GP cautioned

A GP has been cautioned by police for assaulting one of the partners at his health centre practice, allegedly in front of patients. Dr Graham Russell, 63, of Gloucester, has since left the practice.

Hooligan video

A video giving warning of violence at the European Football Championship will go on sale next week uncut. Production of *Hooligan 96* was suspended after criticisms that it glorified hooliganism.

Passive smoking may not kill but it does a lot of harm

CAMPAIGNS against tobacco have tended to rely heavily on the increased liability of cigarette smokers to develop cancer of the lung. Although the statistics are frightening, these crusades have underestimated the effect of cigarettes on cardiovascular disease, non-malignant conditions of the lung such as emphysema and bronchitis, and cancers of the mouth, larynx, bladder and cervix.

The knowledge that smoking makes it four times more likely to have a fatal coronary thrombosis before the age of

65 is in many ways a greater deterrent than the increased risk of developing cancer of the lung.

Recent research by the European working group on environmental tobacco smoke and lung cancer, which has shown that passive smoking is a statistically insignificant factor in the cause of lung cancer in non-smokers, is no great surprise to most doctors. The traditional teaching is that about one in ten lung tumours occurs in non-smokers and those usually have a different cellular structure.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Thirty years ago a non-smoking patient with lung cancer considered it a misfortune of nature and blamed nobody, but now it is rare to see such a patient who does not blame it, without any true evidence, on a smoking spouse, a neighbour at work or a lifetime as a barman or in some other job that involves working in a smoky atmosphere.

The greater chance of developing a common disability is usually more telling than the fear of catastrophe in the future. As a former doctor in genito-urinary medicine, I have always felt that the simple statistic that smoking one cigarette cuts the penile blood supply by a third is likely to do more to dissuade middle-aged smokers than all the statistics on cancer of the lung.

Aged 25, tall and youthful, a smoker can afford a third of a desirable, if not essential, blood supply without disadvantage; 15 years later he may well find this loss is crucial.

Likewise, smokers will not be discouraged by news that passive smokers have a relative risk of 1.01, where 1.0 means no increase in risk, but may think again when they realise that their addiction

can exacerbate many minor problems suffered by those with whom they work or live.

Passive smoking may trigger asthma, allergic rhinitis (a runny nose), bronchitis and angina in their colleagues. Even the toughest smoker would presumably refrain from smoking if he or she understood its detrimental effect on children, where it is closely related to the incidence of childhood asthma and cot death.

Working or living in a tobacco-laden atmosphere induces chest pain in patients

with coronary heart disease. When people with heart disease share a car to work with smokers they have angina on the way when they are breathing smoke-laden air, and on the way back, but while in the office they are free of chest pain.

Passive smoking may cause angina, coughing, a runny nose, it may even kill small babies, but it is unlikely to give rise to cancer.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

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Whitehall lets bill run out of control at British Library

By NIGEL WILLIAMSON, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

SQUABBLES and indecision by civil servants over building the new British Library have trebled costs and caused a catalogue of technical disasters, a public spending watchdog says today.

The resulting delays mean that the building will open eight years behind schedule, at the end of next year. When the public finally admitted, the library will not have enough seats to meet demand.

A report by the National Audit Office blames disputes between the Heritage Department and the library for many of the problems. The two bodies behaved "as opposing parties rather than partners" in the construction of the £500 million building at St Pancras, London.

In the summer of 1994, when a cash limit of £450 million had been breached, the department considered abandoning the building, described by the Prince of Wales as "a

dim collection of sheds groping for some symbolic significance". The idea was rejected and another £40 million was made available. That was used up in February and costs are still rising.

The audit office is highly critical of the library's role but keeps its main barbs for the department. The report has been delayed for many months while Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, tried to persuade the audit office to water down some of its criticisms. Yet the conclusion remains devastating: the library never had direct management or contractual responsibility for the construction and the Government's desire to secure short-term savings not only led to delays but eventually added to long-term costs, now standing at £496 million.

The report says: "Having effectively two clients for a major construction project

carries a high risk of disagreement and indecision over issues of cost versus quality." Conflicting objectives between the department and the library "aggravated time and cost overruns". In a rebuke to the Government, the audit office says: "Major capital projects should be sponsored exclusively by their users, who are best placed to balance time, cost and quality issues."

The library is due to take over the building from the department early next year. The first books will be moved in November this year but the service to readers will not begin until the end of 1997. The audit office queries whether the 1,206 reader seats will be sufficient. Demand for the science reading room, with 351 seats, is expected to be "exceeded at or shortly after opening".

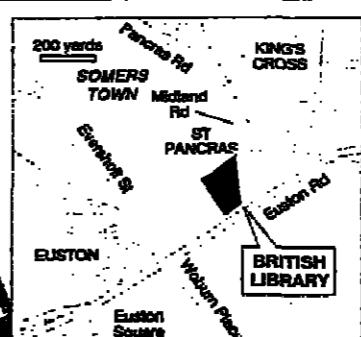
The building, which will eventually house 18 million books when it replaces the old

A litany of technical problems 1991: electronic bookshelves in contract worth £8.4m found to be faulty. The gear mechanisms jam and start to eject books onto the floor. 1992: the air-conditioning system found to be faulty and sections of the building flood. 1993: the fire protection system found to be inadequate and 5,000 sprinklers have to be replaced. 1994: more than 2,000 miles of electric cabling ripped out when faults are discovered which leave electrical systems vulnerable to short-circuiting. 1995: a ceiling found to have been built too low has to be demolished and replaced.

THE BRITISH LIBRARY - THE STORY SO FAR

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British Museum Library, has been beset by technical problems. The report says that inspections of building work were muddled and confused. Delays in the first phase

caused claims from contractors and meant £50 million was spent running the site and employing construction and design staff for an extra 32 months. The department said

yesterday that the audit office had recognised that the problems were rooted in management practices of the 1980s. Sir Anthony Kenny, chairman of the British Library

Gallery to shine light on Roman treasures

By JOHN YOUNG

A NEW gallery for the display of some of the greatest treasures of Roman Britain will open at the British Museum next year.

Many of the objects have never been on public display. They include remarkable new archaeological discoveries, such as a superbly preserved building facade from Merton in Hampshire and the spectacular early 5th-century hoard from Hoxne in Suffolk, containing jewellery, silver-plate and thousands of coins.

The gallery is being funded by a £1.75 million donation from the Garfield Weston foundation. Robert Anderson, the museum's director, said yesterday: "This significant gift from the foundation will at last enable us to do justice to our Roman-British collections."

The display will include writing tablets from Vindolanda on Hadrian's Wall, which provided remarkable insight into life on the northern frontier of the empire.

Leading article, page 19



Anna of Brazil, a porn star, in Cannes yesterday

Porn brokers take a front-row seat at film festival

FROM DALYA ALBERGE IN CANNES

THE seamier side of the Cannes Film Festival is flaunting itself unashamedly: pornography is a thriving industry.

"Take a walk down Porn Row", one specialist in "erotic films" said, pointing to an area of the conference building where there were many stands.

More than 100 porn exhibitors are in town, tempting buyers with thousands of films as openly as if they were children's cartoons. Just a few years ago, business was discreet. Today, it is in the building where the film festival premiers its main movies. Exhibitors cover their stands with glossy photographs of nudes in the most contorted positions, enticing passers-by to sample a video or two.

Some of the larger-than-life girls look as if silicone was on special offer when they put their bodies in the hands of a surgeon. Most make Pamela Anderson look like a character in a Jane Austen novel.

The festivals in Cannes and Milan are the main showcases for pornographic films, which are generally on sale in hard and soft-core versions. Some stands, however, have a third version that is extra-explicit, primarily aimed at the German market.

The porn market has become so strong that 5,000 American porn films were released in the United States alone last year. So many new companies are emerging that prices are being forced down. Chuck Zane, a Californian who has been in the business for 25 years, said: "Porn makers aren't making as much money as they were. I'm sure the world will feel upset for us." He makes 48 features a year. Since the arrival of video, he said, "any

Tom, Dick or Harry has got into the business. They don't have to shoot on film. It used to cost £150,000 to make a porn film but now it can be done for £16,000."

Donna Welles, director of North Star, a Los Angeles company, said: "Making porn has got much more difficult over the past five years because almost every scenario has been played out and mainstream films are so much more explicit that porn makers have to go further."

Tickets to tonight's Hot d'Or Awards, the porn industry's answer to the festival's prestigious Palme d'Or, cost £150. Categories include Best Lesbian Scene.

One of North Star's most recent releases, for which it is seeking a British distributor, is *The Dream Team*, featuring sex on jet skis. Ms Welles discussed the videos in such a matter-of-fact tone that she might have been selling the jet skis.

She turned on the film for a few minutes and said most buyers watched them on fast-forward. The story, she said, did not matter. Buyers just want to see the sex – unless it is destined for cable television, when they need "enough of a storyline".

Asked about the exploitation of women, Ms Welles said: "Most of these girls like to have sex." She emphasised that North Star has strict policies: "No bondage. No bestiality."

Many porn stars were in town yesterday. One of them, Laetitia, said: "I love being a porn star. It's the best thing in the world."

Actresses get as little as £60 for every sex scene, but once they make their names in porn, they can tour as dancers and command salaries of £10,000 a week.

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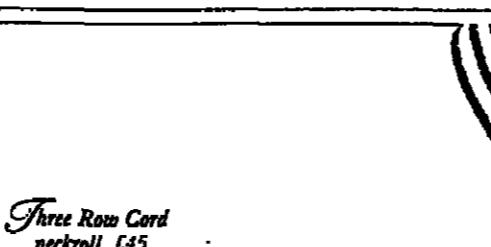


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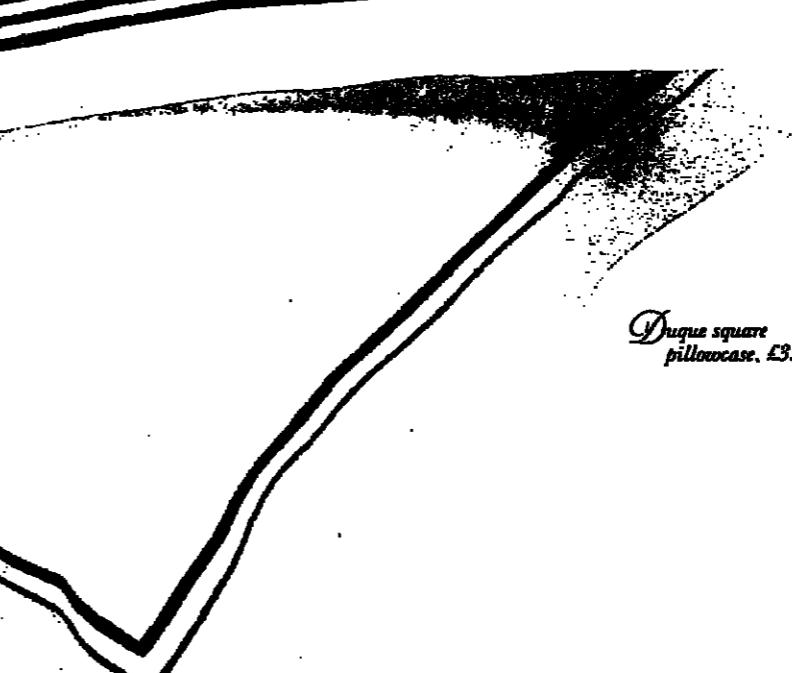
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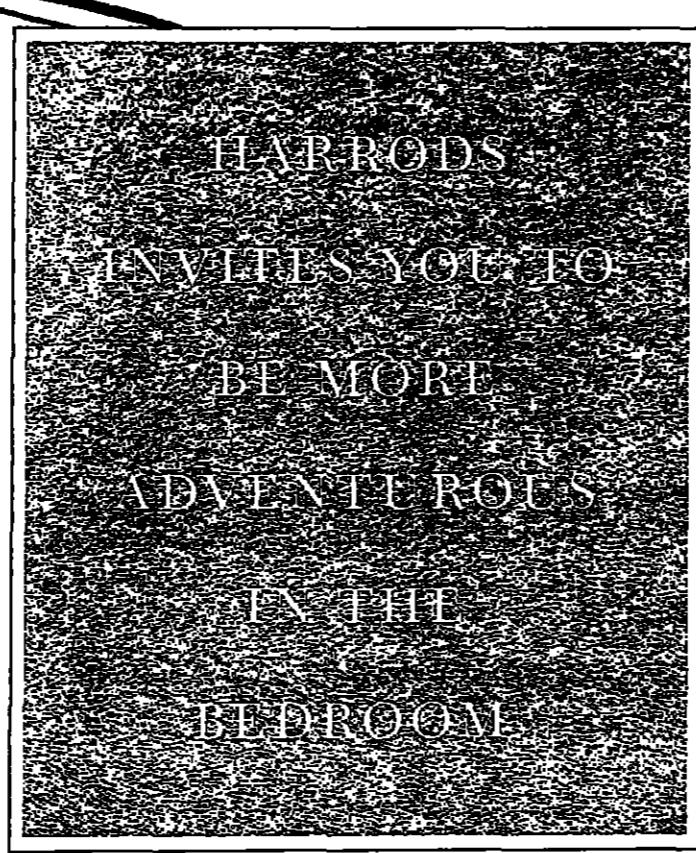
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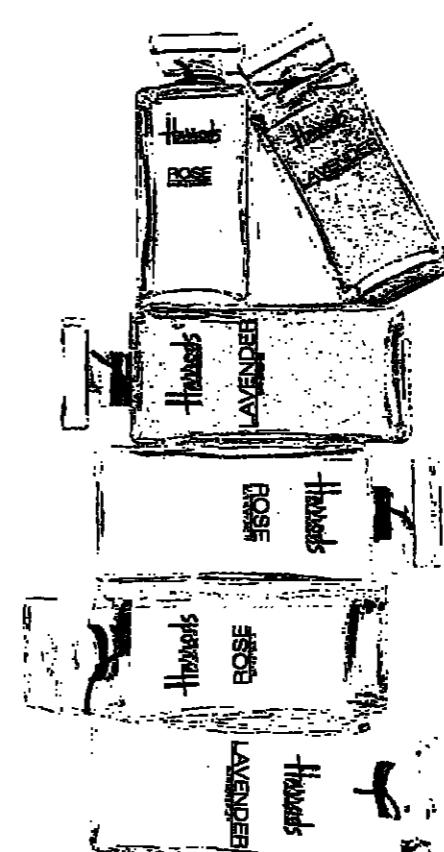
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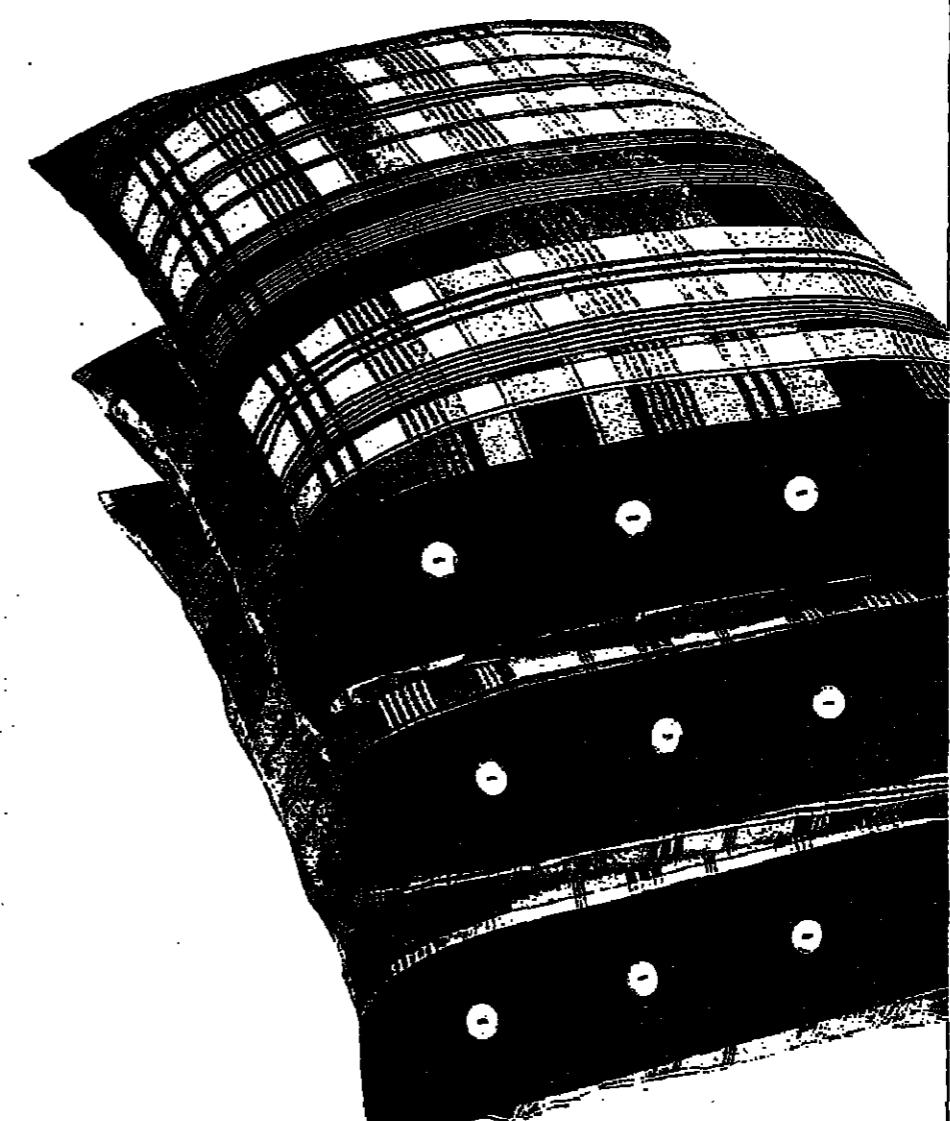
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Kennedy revival fills Democrats with fresh hope

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

A BIRTHDAY card from President Clinton is displayed prominently in the anteroom of Edward Kennedy's office on Capitol Hill. It reads simply: "Thanks for your friendship and for not losing heart this year when so many did."

Mr Clinton has much for which to thank the prominent scion of America's most famous political dynasty. As the President's poll ratings have soared, so too have his party's fortunes in the Senate. In no small part that is due to the extraordinary personal and political revival of Mr Kennedy, a man whose recent career has become a barometer for the Democrats' fortunes.

Two years ago the haggard, bloated and lacklustre senator was on the brink of losing the Massachusetts seat he had held for three decades. Tarnished by a reputation as playboy, rabble-rouser and bon vivant, he was thought broken for ever by the ill fate that had plagued the Kennedy family since the deaths of his two elder brothers.

His popularity had plummeted after William Kennedy Smith, his nephew, was charged with rape after a night of carousing in Palm Beach with Uncle Ted. Mr Smith was acquitted, but the entanglement merely seemed to confirm doubts about the senator's character while

the spectre of Chappaquiddick continued to haunt his electoral ambitions. In the summer of 1994 he had made a public apology for the episode in which Mary Jo Kopechne died after he had driven his Oldsmobile off the Dyke Bridge on the night of July 18, 1969. But even after his re-election later that year, when the Republicans gained control of both houses for the first time in 40 years, Mr Kennedy remained a sad figure rarely courted other than for his name.

Fast forward to this year and the picture is altogether different. Mr Kennedy rarely drinks alcohol. He leaps out of bed at 6am to conquer the exercise treadmill and arrives at Capitol Hill hours before most of his staff. The suits that had strained to accommodate his bulk last year now look positively loose and the excess flesh has fallen from a face that once more reveals the famous Kennedy jawline.

With the help of his wife Victoria Reggie, a Washington lawyer, he married two years ago. Mr Kennedy appears finally to have exorcised the ghosts of his past and settled into a healthy routine of family life. "Basically, I am sort of back in shape or getting there," Mr Kennedy, 64, said recently. "I think I am more alert and able to put in long days and be more effective."



Zane Hollingsworth holds the Olympic flame aloft as he carries it on the Pony Express trail, from Julesburg, Colorado. A team of riders was carrying the flame from Colorado through Nebraska, on its way to Atlanta, Georgia, where the Games begin in July. High winds meant it had to be protected in a lamp

Gay marriages trap is set for Clinton

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER
IN WASHINGTON

THE Republican Congress is preparing a Bill banning government recognition of homosexual marriages as its latest ploy to embarrass President Clinton. The idea is Mr Clinton will either have to veto the

Defence of Marriage Act and offend millions of mainstream voters in an election year, or sign it and upset the gay community that overwhelmingly supported him in 1992.

"We fully expect the President ... to stand up to this gratuitous gay-bashing, and we will hold the President

accountable," said a spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a homosexual lobbying group.

The White House said Mr Clinton opposed gay marriages but had yet to decide on the Bill, which Bob Dole, his Republican challenger, has jointly sponsored. To veto it would take enormous courage. The President and his advisers still vividly remember the drubbing he suffered for seeking to lift the ban on homosexuals in the military early in his presidency.

The President meanwhile is tacking progressively rightwards, and every other day he announces some initiative promoting conservative values.

Dole challenges defence policies

BY TOM RHODES

REPUBLICANS fire an opening campaign salvo against President Clinton's defence policies this week by reviving the national debate over Star Wars, the anti-missile technology that embodied the latter days of the Cold War.

Both houses of Congress are to debate legislation introduced by Senator Bob Dole, the Republican presidential nominee, which would force America to deploy a national missile defence system by 2003. Almost certain to pass Congress, the Defend America Act sets the stage for a battle with the White House over what Republicans say is Mr Clinton's inadequate commitment to defence.

Newt Gingrich, the Speaker, will sponsor the Act through the House of Representatives this week alongside a \$267 billion (£177 billion) military authorisation Bill. That contains \$13 billion more and Mr Clinton, who vetoed the military authorisation Bill last year when it mandated a missile defence system, is expected to do so again.

Polls suggest fading Cold War memories have left Americans more concerned about the economy than defence, but Dole aides believe the debate will re-ignite the issue of character and leadership into a flagging campaign. In recent speeches, Mr Dole has said the President's lack of support for a missile system was proof of his military weakness.

Jet hunt given gun, guard for alligators

FROM QUENTIN LETTS
IN NEW YORK

A POLICE sharpshooter stood guard yesterday over recovery workers at the marshy Florida crash site of the DC9, piloted by Candace Kueck, that was lost on Saturday. The marksman's target: alligators.

The presence of an armed man illustrates the complexity and unpleasantness of the clean-up of Flight 92. The jet's "black box" flight recorder was retrieved by chance after a US Navy diver stepped on it. Sonar search machines had been unable to penetrate the murky, waist-high swamp waters of the Everglades.

The biggest piece of human remains to have been found so far is a kneecap. The bodies of the 109 victims, who included three Britons, were perhaps obliterated, maybe sucked into the mud, or swiftly devoured by the creatures that live in the dark marshes. In addition to the alligators, snakes and large mosquitoes, recovery workers have had to contend with the tall saw grass, so called because its blades are as sharp as a sword. Brush against it accidentally and you are left with a deep gash.

The crash spilt hundreds of gallons of aircraft fuel into the stagnant waters, further complicating the task faced by the divers, who have had to don stiff protective suits and whose time in the water is limited to 20 minutes. Underwater visibility is limited to a couple of inches and the mud and muck of rotting vegetation sometimes become so glutinous that fit men can barely move. Through this stinking biological soup the alligators move with ease, hunting for more human flesh.

Experienced workers have been left demoralised and disturbed by the investigation. Robert Francis, the vice-chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, said: "This is tough stuff out there. They are having to dress up in bio-hazard equipment, gloves, then putting on large rubber suits on top of that, and masks." To make matters worse, tornados have been forecast for Florida.



Kueck: pilot was one of 109 people who died

Everest spar

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DIARY OF A SURVIVOR AGED 8½

February I don't know why I am here. I think my Papa sold me to the boss to learn a trade and now the boss says I must do exactly what he tells me.

March It's the same every day. We go from our beds to the loom at six. No-one must talk. We tie tiny knots all day, the smallest ones on the carpet because we have small fingers. Work, work, work. My fingers crack and weep and sometimes my eyes get all blurred. We get a cup of dahl and half an hour to rest then go back to the loom till night time. There is no more food. We are too tired to play.

April Paro talked today and the boss lashed her with the cane. He shouted at us "if you children speak you are not giving your whole attention to the product."

May My fingers bled again and the boss got angry with me for getting blood on the loom. He says I will work extra hours for the next two days and I will be fined and that will increase my father's debt to him. I cried when he talked about Papa.

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Indian Left names leader and stakes claim to govern

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

INDIA looks likely to produce a fragile centre-left government after an embarrassing but successful scramble last night to find a compromise prime ministerial candidate who wants the job. The possible new leader of 950 million people is largely unknown: H. D. Deve Gowda, the Chief Minister of the southern state of Karnataka.

Bangalore, capital of Karnataka, is the heart of India's booming high-technology and computer software industries. Mr Gowda has held his job for 18 months and is a firm supporter of unfettered foreign investment and further liberalisation of the economy, which was partly opened to international competition by the outgoing Congress Party Government.

There was chaos throughout the day after the powerful Calcutta Communists announced their refusal to participate in any government they could not dominate. That raised the prospect of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) taking power amid the turmoil of its rivals. India's 130 million Muslims would have been appalled.

The Marxists refused to put forward their leader, the octogenarian Jyoti Basu, the Chief Minister of West Bengal, as the prime ministerial candidate for the National Front-Left Front alliance of parties. They said that they saw no reason to abandon their tradi-

tion of not joining coalition governments. That left the alliance searching hurriedly for somebody else, and it settled on V. P. Singh, after the Communists said yesterday that they were ready to support any government that would stop the BJP taking power so long as it was not led by the hand Congress.

However, they said they would not join any administration. So great was the political chaos yesterday it seemed conceivable that P. V. Narasimha Rao, the outgoing Prime Minister, might try to return to power as head of a coalition.

After choosing Mr Gowda, a delegation of leaders of the National Front-Left Front, also known as the Third Force, called on President Sharma to present its case for being invited to form a government. It would be backed by the Congress Party either as a member of the Government or as a parliamentary ally. Mr Sharma is expected to decide this week who should have first shot at proving the ability to govern.

After a day of wild swings of the political pendulum the likelihood of the BJP taking power has again receded. The parliamentary arithmetic is against it, although if it were given the opportunity to try to form an administration it would gain an important advantage in trying to coax MPs to its side.

With its allies it commands 195 seats in the 534-seat Lok Sabha (lower house of parliament), the National Front-Left Front has 112, while Congress has 136, its worst showing in five decades. The rest are held by regional parties and a handful of independents.

The BJP has been tempting a range of small parties with offers of political largesse in return for their support. It would need to win over about 75 more MPs to gain a majority, although it thinks that it could form a viable government with substantially fewer than that.

Once in power it could further lure small groups and independents with offers of ministerial posts and other political temptations.

It would doubtless seek to bribe MPs for their backing. The Congress did the same when it fell narrowly short of a parliamentary majority in 1991.

■ Train crash: Thirty-four people were killed and 20 seriously injured when a train slammed into a bus at an unmanned railway crossing in southern India, the United News of India reported.

The news agency said that the accident happened at the town of Kottakkal, in the southern state of Kerala.

The bus, carrying a marriage party, was mangled beyond recognition, the news agency said. It did not say how many passengers were on the train or the bus. (Reuters)



A rickshaw carries a man and his wife, injured in Monday's tornado, to a health clinic in a Bangladeshi village

Bangladesh tornado claims 400 lives

FROM AHMED FAZL
IN DHAKA

RESCUE workers found 165

some villages, rescue workers said bodies of children were hanging from palm trees. Survivors had clung on to trees to save themselves from the 92mph winds.

In Tangail, the worst-affected district, 70 miles north of the capital Dhaka, survivors said 300 people were missing as the winds uprooted electricity posts and cut road links.

State-controlled radio said access to remote mud and straw huts was still impossible.

The thousands of injured were unable to receive urgent treatment as local hospitals

ran out of blood supplies. Emergency operations were conducted by candlelight. More than 500 injured people were ferried by lorries to a hospital 40 miles away as local medical facilities, already overburdened, refused to admit more patients. Abdus Shakoor, a doctor at Tangail district hospital said: "We are expecting more deaths from epidemics breaking out."

Abdus Sattar Khan, the district commissioner of Tangail, said initial rescue efforts were hampered by debris. It was only yesterday morning

that rescue workers were able to gauge the extent of destruction after roads were cleared to reach three other devastated towns, Kalihati, Bashall and Mirzapur.

In one village, Barabita, a police officer said: "Some families have no one left to mourn." Another officer said: "The whole village has turned into a vast grave." The tornado, although short-lived, reached neighbouring Jamalpur district. Media organisations described property losses as huge and damage to crops as substantial.

Everest spares Manhattan millionairess

FROM QUENTIN LETTS
IN NEW YORK

A PROMINENT Manhattan millionaire, better suited to climbing New York's social peaks, was on the ill-fated expedition to Everest that claimed the life of Rob Hall.

Sandy Hill Pittman, estranged wife of the founder of the pop music cable television channel MTV, narrowly avoided death on the mountain after she lost her way in a 70mph blizzard. Mrs Pittman, 41, was losing strength quickly when she was found by two colleagues

who kept her spirits up by singing songs until Neal Beidleman, the team leader, arrived with an oxygen tank.

Mrs Pittman's husband, Rob, arranged a \$42 million (£28 million) corporate buyout last year and, before their marital strife, the Pittmans were big on the Manhattan party scene. She had long spoken of her desire to climb Everest and helped to finance the expedition, organised by an American-based company called Mountain Madness.

Mrs Pittman, who is credited with the looks of Jackie Onassis, took an espresso coffee machine with her up the moun-

tain. She has appeared in *Esquire* magazine's "Women We Love" list and *McCall's* "15 Women Who Will Brighten Your Future". Before she married Mr Pittman in 1979, she toiled as a writer on *Mademoiselle* and *Bride's* magazines, but by 1990 she was being described as a "princess" of Manhattan.

In the competitive social mill of New York, it helps to have a distinctive line in small talk. To be able to drop into the conversation that one has just conquered Everest is something of a social ace. Mrs Pittman has been a keen hill-walker and rock-climber since the age of 13.



Pittman: took espresso machine up mountain

Widow speaks of last call from mountain

BY RONALD FAUX

THE widow of the New Zealand mountain guide who died on Everest spoke yesterday of the satellite call she had received from her husband, Rob Hall, before he died.

Jan Arnold, who is expecting her baby, said: "He managed to impart some peacefulness to me, because I slept for six or seven hours."

Ms Arnold, who climbed Everest with her husband in 1993, said he told her he was frostbitten and weak but was trying to save oxygen to get down.

She gave up hope on Sunday when she learnt he had not reached a lower camp. "My heart sank. I could totally picture where he was."

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OVERSEAS NEWS 13

US risks
Chinese
trade war

Washington: The Clinton Administration will today identify more than \$2 billion (£1.3 billion) worth of Chinese goods on which it plans to impose punitive sanctions after the apparent breakdown of trade talks yesterday (Martin Fletcher writes).

The goods will be primarily textiles and electronics, and the sanctions will be implemented in 30 days unless Peking agrees to Washington's demand that it end widespread Chinese piracy of American music, films and computer software. China has threatened to retaliate, raising the prospect of a multi-billion dollar trade war.

7,000 firefighters
tackle blazes

Moscow: More than 7,000 firefighters were tackling forest fires in the Ural Mountains, Siberia and the Russian Far East as a heatwave and high winds fanned blazes in many areas, officials said. "A total of 6,657 forest fires have been registered in these regions," said Karl Smolikov, of the Emergency Situations Ministry. However, he said that there were no reports of deaths. (AP)

UN expert quits
over lack of cash

Geneva: The United Nations human rights expert investigating violations in Burma has resigned in protest at the lack of funds to carry out his work. Yozo Yokota, a Tokyo university law professor, was one of 12 UN experts monitoring violations in countries considered to have the worst human rights records. (AP)

Troops move in
to free hostages

Jakarta: Indonesian troops have moved into the jungles of Irian Jaya to rescue 11 hostages, including four Britons, held by separatist rebels for more than four months. The move came after talks between the Red Cross and the rebels broke down. (AP)

Make decadent waves

Grace Bradberry finds out what's hot and what's not on the beach this summer



Triumph Amourette two-piece with detachable straps (£39) and Amourette one-piece with Lycra (£45)



OFF THE CATWALK



Hermes: white Lycra cutaway suit



Bhs black sports bikini top (£10) and black bikini swim skirt (£12) from the mix and match range

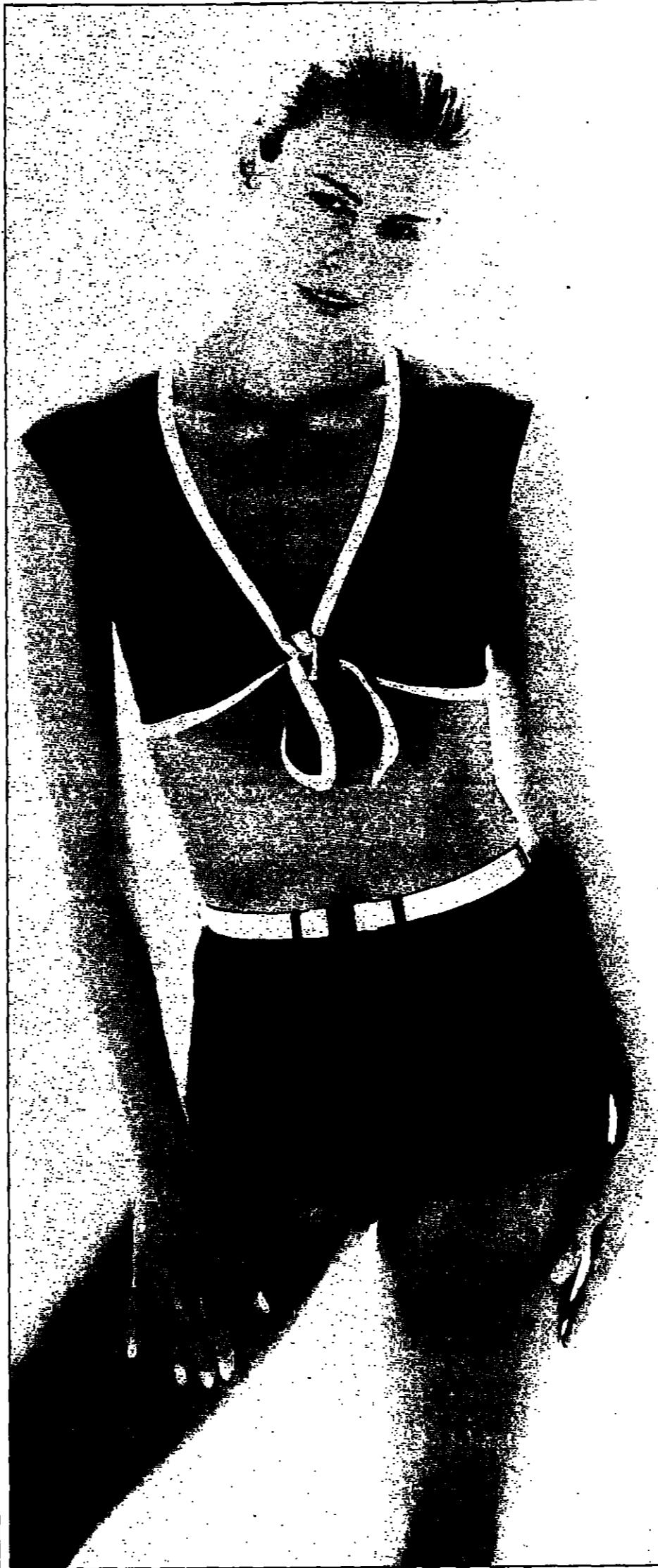


Ferme: blue and white two-piece



Bella Freud: Fifties-inspired bikini

Iceberg: lime print bikini



Marks & Spencer tie front bikini top (£10) and high-leg brief (£10). Belted one-piece with boy-legs and conventional one-piece also available



HERE COMES
summer
DAY THREE

Looking for an overall direction in swimwear can be a confusing business. For a long time now, we have not so much basked as cowered beneath the shadow of Elle Macpherson, Cindy Crawford and their ilk — Amazonian women custom-made for the sporty look.

Some designers have been dipping into the past for a while, but glossy one-pieces with a modern, Californian feel have tended to dominate. But now it seems that the tide really is turning, and this season could be a high-water mark.

Above all, suggests Plum Sykes, a *Vogue* fashion writer, designers are moving away from the preoccupation with tight, high-cut one-pieces towards something less overtly sexy. "The classiest bikinis are definitely the ones with shorts. There are also lots of halter-neck bikinis and hipsters. Overall, the designs reflect a mixture of the Fifties and Sixties and Twenties and Thirties," she says.

The high street chains have picked up on a handful of the striking shapes and patterns that appeared on the catwalk for this summer. Boy-legged swimsuits, string bikinis teamed with skirts or shorts, and hipster-bikinis are the key silhouettes.

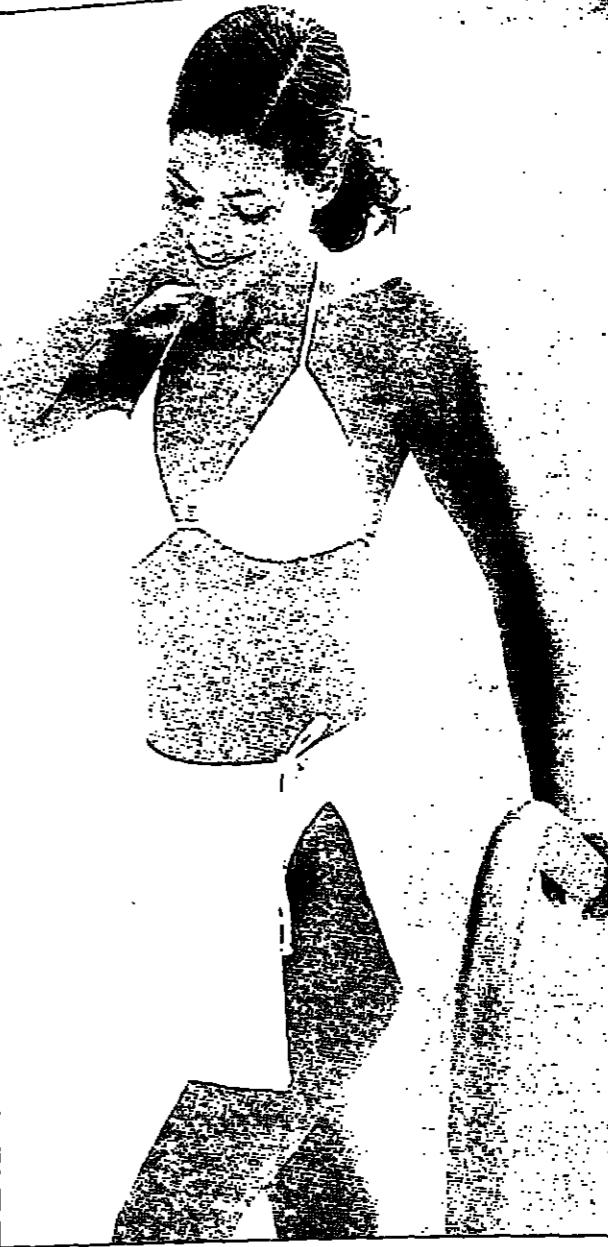
Some of the references verge on parody. One or two designers have clearly watched *Dr No* recently, and the image of Ursula Andress emerging from the waves looms large. Archive photographs of bright young things before the war also find an echo.

Ultimately, of course, it is the customer who decides what makes it onto the beach. Knickerbox is selling more bikinis than anything, and

way in which a sense of fun, even decadence, has returned to beachwear.

Versace led the way last year with a collection of towelling separates decorated with kitsch fruit designs. This summer Bella Freud produced her own interpretation of the look: a bold red, white and green fruit design.

Two-tone suits with contrasting edging also made the transition from the catwalk to the shops. But while Iceberg's green and white skirted bikini, with white tipping, harked back to the Fifties and was resolutely kitsch, Marks & Spencer opted for good taste. Its black and white Riviera-style swimwear looked back to the Thirties.



Next/Next Directory baby pink towelling string bikini (£19.99) and skirt (£9.99)



Knickerbox fruit print swimsuit (£27.50), also available in underwired bikini (£25)

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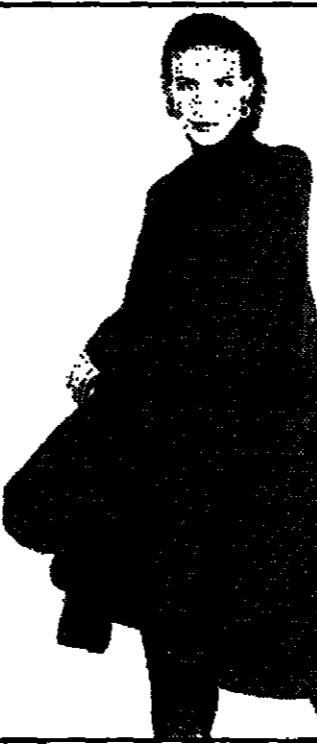
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Is the lord really playing God?

Lord Winston's offer of treatment to an HIV-positive woman has been widely condemned. But is it perhaps his critics who are arrogant?

Scene: Outside the Pearly Gates. One doctor, newly deceased, approaches and is forbidden entry. He remonstrates, but to no avail. After a while a second doctor comes up and is also turned away. The same happens to a third doctor. The three are standing resentfully outside the portals when a fourth doctor sweeps up, his white coat flapping, his stethoscope like a medallion against his chest. St Peter rushes to open the gates and the doctor is ushered through them. The three rejected doctors complain: after all, why should that doctor be allowed through when their credentials were not deemed worthy. "Oh," says St Peter, "that's God, he just thinks he's a doctor!" Perhaps

there is a bit too much of the student revue about that joke, but I can see why doctors might laugh ruefully at it. I'm not sure, right at the moment, how funny Professor Lord Winston could find it. There is scarcely a commentator who doesn't disapprove of his decision to give infertility treatment to a woman with HIV. And all of them condemn him for "playing God".

We all have a clear idea what we mean by the idea of "playing God" but I don't believe the concept makes sense. After all, if we believe that doctors are appropriating divine status whenever they give treatment that attempts to change the course of nature, then the only logical response we have, all of us, is to become Christian Scientists.

Not many people would think of accusing a doctor of playing God if he removed an appendix, and yet without intervention anyone with appendicitis might well die of it. Unless we are quite half way round

the bend already, we don't accuse a doctor who thus saves someone's life of arrogantly presuming to do God's job better than he is doing it himself.

I'm sure that in many cultures the very idea of a heart transplant operation would seem shocking — positively blasphemous — but in our culture we would generally regard such a reaction as primitive. So, why, whenever a doctor does something of which we disapprove do we accuse him or her of arrogance, of playing God? There seems to be rather more arrogance in assuming that our opinions are one and the same with God's will.

As a committed atheist, I can see that my views on a non-existent God's putative plan are not to the point, but in medicine, God tends to be invoked not so much as a deity with a particular project, so much as the moral force of nature. But medicine must often argue with nature: infertility treatment itself would have no place in a world that thought that doctors had no business meddling with the state in which people find themselves naturally.

Now, I may not be religious, but Lord Winston is: and as a devout man, he is entirely satisfied that his behaviour is not contrary to the strictures of what is a pretty exiguous faith. His article yesterday was persuasive: for him it would have been unethical to let prejudice prevent his treating his patient; and whatever else Professor Winston is a man of integrity.

On learning of the case, I couldn't help but spontaneously disapprove. On reading his account, I don't necessarily change my mind, but I see that his reasons for offering



Professor Lord Winston: scarcely a commentator doesn't disapprove of his decision to give infertility treatment to a woman with HIV

treatment were honourable; those who condemn him as a publicity-hungry controversialist discredit only themselves.

Surely we should all accept that he is in a better position — from his clinical experience and his deeper knowledge of this particular case — to decide what he thinks is the right thing.

And yet, and yet... as much as a doctor believes that his duty lies in treating patients without prejudice, there are always choices. Unfortunately many of these choices recently have purported to be ethical ones when in reality the considerations

have primarily been financial. Many of those who have been rejected as unsuitable for IVF must be smarting at Lord Winston's decision. Perhaps it would have been better for them to have been told in the first place that it was simply lack of funds which prevented their having the treatment.

Doctors do, on the whole, feel better justifying their decisions *morally*; so often an unattractive amount of pontificating on and judging of potential patients does go on. But at other times, some sort of cold appraisal must be necessary. Lord Winston is right to say

that none of us can presume to know who will or will not make a good parent, but even he must acknowledge that prospective IVF patients must be subject to some sort of scrutiny. And things aren't so very clear-cut: to withhold fertility treatment from someone with a short life expectancy can be both cruel and justified at the same time.

But the hardest part of Lord Winston's job must be in turning people away. I don't see how you could do what he does and not want to treat everyone. Those of us who have never needed to seek the help

of someone like him, should be less ready to pronounce so brusquely. A familiar theme of his detractors is the selfish insistence of every woman that she has a "right" to have a child, but I have yet to hear any infertile women speak of demanding her rights. Rather the talk, unbearably moving, is about passionate desire and yearning.

These are desperate women who are prepared to take desperate measures. We might disagree with them, we might wish to condemn them, but I really feel we should try, at the same time, to understand them.

Sporting strife, continued

I WILL defend the BBC and the licence fee that subsidises it until my last breath, but I could have wished to find my loyalty a little less stretched.

A week or so ago I railed against the idiotic prominence given to sport and at the insistence that the games boys play have a wide-reaching significance that we must all respect. Well, things never get any better. Now, it appears, the BBC has paid unprecedented sums just so that our every waking hour — and some of our sleeping ones — will be filled this summer with football matches, obscure Olympic events and other sporting occasions.

Soap operas, sitcoms, regular programmes must all be shunted aside to make way for this saturation coverage, but just in case you could even think of accusing the BBC of blokeishness, it has decided to demonstrate its good faith by promising that female presenters will feature prominently in these programmes. If anything were proof of puerility, this would be it.

The strangest thing is that the BBC and ITV appear to be in cahoots over this. Now, I know that what drives them into each other's arms is fear of cable sport, after all, is what lures people to satellite TV. But I think this move might well send the rest of us over.

A campaign lost in the haze

A REPORT — admittedly one financed by the tobacco industry — is just out that declares there to be no link between passive smoking and cancer. Of course, one would want to make sure such findings were bona fide, but presuming they are, surely it comes as something as a relief.

It would, after all, be good news. But not for the anti-smoking lobby, which is furious at the very suggestion that other people's tobacco smoke might not give innocent bystanders painful, terminal illnesses.

You see, lung cancer is good for the anti-smoking brigade in much the same way that an oil slick is good for environmentalists. Too much good intent can evidently warp the mind.

How we left a medium pale and frightened

I have tried to like *The X-Files*. For several weeks I have sat in front of the television at the appointed hour, willing myself to believe that there is something out there — but to no avail. Tosh, says a voice in my head. Rubbish. Green slime from the special-effects department comes cheap.

When I was younger I sat around the odd campfire too, listening, in the crepuscular evening, to tales of long-dead pioneers who could still be seen in these very woods. I didn't like to say that it might just be the wind in the pines, for fear of breaking the mood. I tried the harder stuff: M. R. James and *The Shining* too, but remained what I am still today: a sceptic, unwilling to accept notions of other worlds, parallel universes, spirits and sprites until I am offered the kind of evidence that fills test-tubes and makes pie-charts.

Which is why I don't know what to do with — how to categorise — my memories of Betty Shine.

Betty is a medium. The very word makes me, and legions of other sceptics, I am sure, roll the eyes in exasperation. I think myself far too hard-headed for that kind of nonsense. But I met Betty some years ago, and although you may argue that 16 is an impressionable age, or that a teenager's memory is a volatile, unreliable thing, it is hard to explain what I know happened that afternoon.

There were five of us: myself, my beloved friend, her sister, her cousin, and Betty.



What the clairvoyant Betty Shine saw one night had a dramatic effect upon her, remembers Erica Wagner

We had gone to look at a house that Sister wanted to buy. She had heard that Betty was able to sense the auras of houses, and wanted to know whether it was a good house, a sick house, or whether it needed spiritual cleansing: she thought it would be a good thing to have Betty along.

Beloved Friend, Cousin and I thought this was somewhat cranky, but saw no harm in it, and off we went.

It was a beautiful afternoon. The house was deserted: Cousin picked the lock on the kitchen door to get us in. The last occupants, squatters, had left mannequins in the rooms, their peachy limbs at odd angles, their faces blankly affronted. I thought it was a creepy place; I would never have bought it. But, Betty pronounced it peaceful and pleasant, and pointing out of the window at an expanse of lawn, indicated where a pond and a well had once been. Later we found the old plans of the house: she was right.

Closing the door as best we could, we retired to a nearby pub for rounds of crab sandwiches. When our plates were empty and London beckoned, Cousin asked Betty to read each of our palms.

Now, Betty — despite her Dickensian name — doesn't look like a palm-reader. She looks like the aunt you always wanted but never had: sensible and wise and kind. As such an aunt would, she demurred, saying her skill in palmistry wasn't a parlour-trick. She didn't look, to me, like she would be able to read palms: everyone knows that palmists wear veils and have crystal balls, and make vague predictions about the years to come in foreign accents that Henry Higgins himself could never have placed. But Cousin persevered, and Betty gave in.

We put our hands on the table in turn, palm up. First Sister, then Cousin, then me. I don't recall what she said about my future — the future is a faraway place when you

are 16, and I could hardly believe that what she said would matter. But when she spoke about my character and my past from what she saw — so it seemed — in the lines of my hand, she then seemed to be a true seer. How did she know what no one else around that table knew? About my parents, about my childhood, about the self that even at 16 one tries to keep hidden?

Even then I thought that it had to be some kind of trick, but how could such a trick have been accomplished? She was serene, and what she said was the truth. I stared at her, and looked hard at my hands, but there were no secrets there to my eyes. Betty writes about the Third Eye, and it doesn't mean much to me. But it is more than just a parlour-trick to be such a judge of character on an hour's acquaintance.

Finally it was the turn of Beloved Friend. Betty took Beloved Friend's hands in hers and turned them upward; and then she went quite white. She really did; just like it happens in novels, all the blood drained from her rosy face and she looked drawn, and a little frightened, and very embarrassed indeed. She looked at Beloved Friend as if she had seen the Devil. "These are your friends and family," said Betty, "I can't say anything. Not here." She let go of Beloved Friend's hands and they hung for an instant over the table like they did not belong to her. Then she tucked them back into her lap.

We were all embarrassed. We didn't know where to look. The afternoon was spoilt, but



When Betty Shine spoke about my past and my character — about the self I tried to hide, she seemed a true seer

no one said anything more and we went our separate ways: Betty left us and Cousin, Sister, Beloved Friend and I drove back to London in silence. For the most part I forgot about that afternoon. There were more important things to think about.

But I recalled it, some months later, when I fell out with Beloved Friend. A very polite and English phrase, "fell out": but it was more than that. Sometimes people drift apart: sometimes they argue; and sometimes the breaking of a friendship is a kind of seismic rift from which you never really recover, however

much you may heal. The whole landscape has changed and nothing is ever the same. It's a long story, and I don't claim to be blameless: but I remember Beloved Friend's hands hovering over the table, and Betty's pale face.

• *My Life as a Medium* by Betty Shine is published by Thorsons (HarperCollins) on May 20, price £15.99

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Alan Coren



■ The origin of specious restoration is the descent of home into heritage

Unless you are the sort of crackpot fundamentalist who likes nothing better than to curl up in front of a roaring fireplace with the collected works of William Jennings Bryan, you must have been as distressed as I to learn that Down House was to be not merely restored to its original state, but preserved in that state for all eternity. Bought last week by English Heritage, the dear old pile (£700,000/170) is doomed, over the next 12 months, to be tattered to pristine nick, thereafter to remain utterly unchanged. Forever.

That should befall the hallowed bolt-hole where Charles Darwin dashed off *The Origin of Species* strike me as quite appalling. Could there be a more flagrant insult to his memory, or a more cavalier rejection of all he was and did than for a *quango ex machina* to stick its ear in with the express object of thwarting the evolutionary process which governs every British species of the genus *Residentia domesticus*? I looked at the snapshot accompanying the press coverage, and I tell you, Down House wobbled in my brimming tears. For it would never, now, develop fine marble cladding, never sprout a tasteful sun porch in elegant teak-veneered chipboard, graced on either side by handsome sun-milled brass carriage lamps, never wake one morning to find a sumptuous granny-flat evolving through its roof, or a magnificent pre-cast aluminium conservatory burgeoning on its left flank to complement the chic jacuzzi sauna annexe new-generated on its right. A triple-glazed mock-millioned carport blessed with remote-controlled up-and-over doors? Forget it! A bespoke al fresco twin-level gas-fired barbecue pit surrounded by semi-circular neo-Hepplewhite all-weather seating for ten? Fat chance! A thatched Portaplayroom extension benefiting from indoor sandpit and paddling pool? Out of the question! For Down House is no longer part of The Descent of Home.

Look again at the snapshot and mark those sad old french windows, how artificially excluded forever from that process of natural selection — be it from a gorgeous full-colour brochure or simply thanks to the random chance of qualified representatives just happening to be in the neighbourhood — which would see them evolve into sleek anodised patio doors designed to slide open at the merest touch; thereby, of course, affording instant access not, as now, to some mangy wormcast lawn, but to elegantly tarmacaded off-street parking, girt with gleaming poles supporting halogen floodlights and feelgood CCTV to empower the householder to gaze out lovingly and confidently at his cherished 7-series BMW and 4WD Daihatsu, instead of at a load of tatty shrubs and bedders.

Tragic? It gets worse. Remember, friends, Down House is no ordinary residence, it is a monument, a shrine, an icon, a cultural landmark, and, being open to the public, it is thus bound to attract only visitors who would not touch it with a bargepole unless they were offered something more than the opportunity to stare at a spotty desk where an old bloke sat thinking about monkeys. Because it will not have escaped you that all such public attractions have also evolved, to the point where the survival of the fittest depends entirely upon value added. But English Heritage is determined to have none of this, either: not only is there to be no water-chute, no go-kart track, no Ferris-wheel, no karaoke bar, there has not even been any move to grasp what you and I would see as a golden opportunity for a daily chimpanzees' tea-party, with the guests dressed up in frock-coats, golden pince-nez, and stove-pipe hats, both to make some sort of thematic point — sponsored, no doubt, by Brooke Bond — and to encourage the sale of fluffy animals, or even fluffy biologists, at the Common Ancestor Gift Shoppe. Not that there will be a gift shop, of course, any more than there will be a jumbo takeaway facility offering juicy quarter-pound Beagleburgers, Kentucky fried dodo, and thick breadfruit shakes.

Put an ear to the ground: do you hear Charles Darwin spinning in his grave? His was a life spent proving that nothing stands still. Not even England's heritage.



Accountable to nobody

The privatisation of the public utilities was a con — as Clare Spottiswoode's devastating five-year gas plan proves

Clare Spottiswoode is the Joan of Arc of privatisation. With a flaming gasolier in her hand and a mystic Ofgas rampant on her shield, she charges into the deepest slaze. Fat cats, Sids, bulls and bears flee snaking into the forest. St Clare knows no fear. This week she gave every family in Britain an extra pound a week. She has justice, the BBC and the tabloids on her side. She is that mercenary of modern bureaucracy, the valiant utility regulator.

Anyone who believed Margaret Thatcher when she said she was privatising British Gas was a fool. She was raising cash while bringing the gas industry under more rigorous Whitehall control than ever before. Sure, she was asking the industries to give the public some profits as shareholders, rather than as consumers or taxpayers. But the only substantive change she made was in the role and status of the boss of the gas board.

That boss is not some titular chairman. It is Clare Spottiswoode. She is also non-parliamentary minister for gas. By comparison, the formal chairman, Richard Giordano, is a cipher. This week, Ms Spottiswoode revealed her devastating five-year plan for the distribution subsidiary of British Gas, known as TransCo. The plan is more detailed than anything imposed on the industry in the bad old days by Whitehall. Consider: the board's audited valuation of its own assets is halved; the permitted rate of return on these assets is cut; the plan cuts the depreciation allowed, cuts operating costs by 4 per cent and cuts the allowance for capital spending. Still beavering away, Ms Spottiswoode tells TransCo that she is slashing the prices it can charge the gas companies next year by a quarter. She is suppressing rises for the rest of the plan's period to five points less than the retail price index.

To the board of British Gas, this is the commercial equivalent of a nuclear wipe-out. Ms Spottiswoode has torn up their corporate plan and written her own. She has in effect branded the British Gas board as liars and their shareholders as gullible fools. Her views were diametrically opposed to his. She was also able to take advantage of politics. Yesterday's announcement seems to have been in part a response to the unpopularity of the British Gas board members. Like Shirley Porter in Westminster, they have given privatisation a bad name and their unpopularity

tinted TransCo's revenue by a fifth, she has induced its management to threaten 10,000 job losses, or half its workforce. Ms Spottiswoode is not so much playing Joan of Arc as playing God. Except that she is not playing God. She is playing that subtle mix of politics and control beloved of the British Civil Service. That culture was supposedly swept away by privatisation. The hidden assumption of yesterday's plan is simple: TransCo, though ostensibly a private company, must have its balance sheet and its profit and loss account determined by a government official. The late Nicholas Ridley's celebrated boast has proved true: "Utilities which we intend to privatisate are more easily controlled when they are in the private sector."

Ridley meant Treasury control. What has happened is regulator control. The curiosity of Ms Spottiswoode's position is that she is beyond control. She need not conform to any central plan. She can be as subjective as she likes. For instance, the Government wants her to surcharge gas profits to support a public trust set up to promote energy conservation. This pledge, made at the Rio summit, is beloved of ministers. Ms Spottiswoode dislikes it and refuses to levy the surcharge. I am not aware of her democratic mandate for this. But she need not care. She has one of Britain's biggest companies by the short hairs. The board is her subcontractor, the agency of her whim.

When Ms Spottiswoode took over from Sir James McKinnon, the gas industry regarded it as a "change of government without an election". Her views were diametrically opposed to his. She was also able to take advantage of politics. Yesterday's announcement seems to have been in part a response to the unpopularity of the British Gas board members. Like Shirley Porter in Westminster, they have given privatisation a bad name and their unpopularity

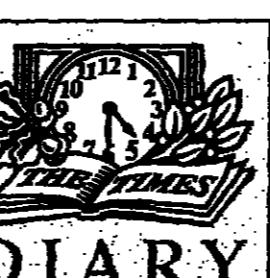
has cost them the right to fair treatment. As with Dame Shirley, so with British Gas, an unaccountable public official can damn the reputation of public figures without a court hearing or witnesses summoned and cross-examined. In all she has said about British Gas, Ms Spottiswoode may be in the right. But how can we tell?

To search for a path of democratic accountability through all this is to sink into a bog in a thick in a fog. The company can appeal against Ofgas to the Monopolies Commission (the bog). The commission's findings then go to the Trade and Industry Secretary, who considers them (the thicker). He then pretends to answer to Parliament (the fog). The regulator herself is described by Whitehall as a "non-ministerial department". This phrase defies authorship and constitutional status. In a Charter 88 lecture a year ago, Ms Spottiswoode confessed that she had not been told that amounts permitted to "in truth very little". She supplies a report each year to Parliament — but, she added, it is not worth the paper it is written on and goes virtually unread. The lady is splendidly frank. But then she can afford to be. She faces no election and can court public beatification at the slash of a price and the drop of a press release.

What is clear is that for Treasury control of energy policy has been substituted, not the stern healmaster of the market, but a discordant choir of bureaucrats. Each regulator is singing his own tune. These people have huge power over vast industries, yet have no duty to be consistent or to plan coherently. When the media complained that they had been too generous to their respective industries, the electricity, rail and gas regulators simply tore up previous decisions and made tougher ones. No industry can plan on this basis.

Labour is bound to change this. It has no hang-ups about "arm's length". It believes in price control and planning. In power, it would regulate the regulators, making them conform to an energy plan or at least a collegiate pricing theory. A Labour Cabinet wouldn't need to renationalise. Share certificates can be left where they are, rendered worthless by dividend control. The power for ministers to make directions is enshrined in most of the regulators' statutes.

As for Joan of Arc, if a minister comes and shoots her horse from under her, she can always turn democratic and find a new seat in Parliament.



Team spirit

MANCHESTER UNITED Football Club's inexorable good fortune continues. A feature film is to be made about the team of the 1950s, which included the Busby Babes. The makers of *Four Weddings and a Funeral* own the script and have announced in Cannes that they are hoping to sign up Sean Connery to play the late Sir Matt Busby, the club's Scottish former manager.

The film will tell the story of the group of dazzlingly talented young

players whose extraordinary domestic success was cut short when their plane crashed in Munich in 1958, with the loss of many of the stars. Bobby Charlton was one of the few to survive.

Apart from signing the famously hard-nosed Connery, two other problems remain for the filmmakers. Trying to find a stadium which has the grim industrial feel of Old Trafford as it was 40 years ago has taken location scouts around Eastern Europe. Even the

Swotting up

THE Princess Royal is repaying favours on her children's behalf. She has showered Peter and Zara's school governors with invitations to a soirée at Holyrood.

The headmaster of Gordonstoun, Mark Pyper, has received his call-up after his sterling encouragement of Peter Phillips on the rugby field. Five Gordonstoun governors have also been invited for the night, along with the headmaster of Port Regis School in Shattockbury when Peter and Zara were pupils. All have been invited to stop over at Holyrood during the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland next week.

• Trevor McDonald made a reluctant departure from a fancy lunch yesterday to launch the latest of the Dom Pérignon vintages from Moët & Chandon. "Any more of this," he burbled, swinging the dregs of a rare glass of

Dewar, Labour's chief whip. "It was a mistake for which I take entire responsibility, but we have now put it right."

Brown, however, is unrepentant. "No one told me about an agreement between the front benches," he said yesterday. "Anyway, it is not the job of the Opposition to nod through the Prime Minister's promises."

Spook TV

MY COLLEAGUE Matthew Paris recently compared Blair's new Labour clan to the ghoulish Addams Family. Now Blair is beginning to realise that he may have been on to something.

Yesterday the Labour leader spoke of his recent trip to America, where he discovered that Prime Minister's Question Time enjoys a big cult following on cable TV. "I bumped into somebody who watched PMQs avidly, and he told me it was one of his two favourite TV shows," said Govey Blair. "I asked him what the other one was and he said *The Addams Family*."

As the Bill was read out, Brown — who was running the Labour show at the time — cried out "No". Now the Bill must go through the whole boring procedure of a standing committee. "I apologised within half an hour," said Donald

by, which has been plastered with posters advertising the current hosepipe ban imposed by the water authority.

Unfortunately, Grimsby is not served by Yorkshire Water, but Anglian Water, and does not have a hosepipe ban. "We have removed them and apologised to Anglian Water," dabbles Yorkshire Water spokeswoman. "We are still looking into what might have happened. But our priority was to remove them before any further confusion was caused."

P.H.S

Labour must make them work

Gordon Brown on a new deal for the lost generation

Tough choices are essential if Labour is to solve one of the hardest social and economic problems of all: the crisis in education and employment faced by Britain's young people.

Six hundred thousand young people are out of work. A third of teenagers leave school without basic qualifications. A smaller proportion of 16 and 17-year-olds are in full-time education than any OECD country save Turkey. And 60 per cent of our crime is committed by people under 25. So we face nothing less than the waste of a generation — not just of the gaunt, defeated young people begging in the streets, but less visibly, though no less wastefully, the hundreds of thousands of young people still living at home who have never had the chance to work and build their own lives — young people feeling they are going nowhere.

The vision of a one-nation society and a stakeholding Britain can only be made meaningful for these excluded young people if we face up to the linked problems of education and employment. And we cannot prevent the vicious cycle of low skills, unemployment and poverty repeating itself from one generation to another unless we act now. If we do not, we face growing social division.

Today, David Blunkett, Jack Straw, Chris Smith and I will show that we can solve this problem. But the solution will require tough choices about our public spending priorities. For all of us will suffer if we fail to act and continue to pay the costs of failure: an estimated ten billion pounds in the cost of crime and unemployment.

Creating opportunities in education and work for millions of young people is Labour's goal. It will be the priority for Labour's first Budget in government, a Budget for hope.

Our objectives are clear. Every young person should have a skill and a qualification. Everyone under 25 and not in full-time education should have work and training. This is why we have launched Labour's new deal for the under-25s.

First, jobs. In our inner cities, 25 per cent of young men are out of work. That is why, in order to start tackling the problem of youth and long-term unemployment, Labour has announced a windfall levy on the excess profits of our utilities, so that every young person who has been out of work for more than six months will have job and training opportunities. The unfair profits of the utilities should be put to work to offer a fair deal to the unemployed. But our emphasis on rights-for-responsibilities will ensure that the money will be properly spent. We will provide a choice of four options for young unemployed people, for staying at home on full benefit will not be one of them.

Second, we need to provide training for young people in work. Qualifications increasingly determine employment prospects and earnings. Yet only 64 per cent have a skill to NVQ level 2. The Government's aim is 85 per cent. Our aim will be to put 100 per cent of young people on the road to a qualification.

This is why David Blunkett will today announce the end of Youth Training 2000, and its replacement by Target 2000. Currently, less than half of Youth Training participants finish their courses. This is not the best way to spend £500 million, and Labour will do better. We will also ensure that every young person in work receives training. This is the difference between Labour's statutory approach to training at work and the Tories' voluntary approach.

Third, Labour will make the battle against crime a central element of a new deal for the under-25s. Jack Straw will today suggest a new arm of Labour's Environmental Task Force, so that we can engage the energies of young people in improving their neighbourhoods.

Most importantly, we cannot solve this crisis if so many young people continue to waste their school years and leave at 16 without qualifications. Britain has one of the lowest staying-on rates in higher education of all the major industrial countries.

Our public spending review for the post-16s is designed to use existing resources better so we can increase the staying-on rate at school and college. We will review all post-16 spending — grants, fees, loans, educational maintenance allowances, discretionary grants and child benefit. As I said two weeks ago, one option is to upgrade child benefit to national educational allowances for those who need them.

Labour's plan is nothing less than a radical redistribution of public expenditure in favour of jobs and education. We will use the proceeds of the utilities windfall levy, a reallocation of the £500 million spent on Youth Training to Target 2000 and the use of £150 million of existing Training and Enterprise Council funds, which will be redirected to a million individual learning accounts, worth £150 each.

Our new campaign gives the lie to Tory critics who say that Labour is removing benefits for youngsters after 16 without announcing anything in their place. But it also shows that Labour is willing to make the choices necessary to tackle the crisis of a lost generation.

The author is the Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer.

FERTILE W

Land of humanity awaiting

SORRY IS THE

But it is

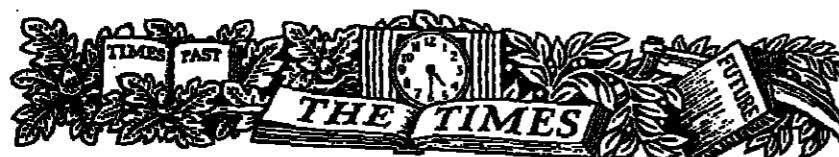
Latin into

Lighter thoughts



Sir Matt Busby and his body-double Sean Connery

مكتبة الأصل



FERTILE WITH ERROR

Voice of humanity against the voice of vested interests

No one could fail to feel sympathy for a childless couple desperate to have their own baby. There are undoubtedly couples who, knowing that one or other partner is a carrier for a fatal disease or severe deformity, decide to take the gamble of pregnancy in the hope that they will have a normal child. Society leaves the decision to them, and underwrites the medical and other costs, which can be considerable, of caring for the child should it prove to have inherited the genetic defect.

From there, it may seem a short step to justify the use of medical science to induce pregnancy in an infertile woman who has a disease which is almost always fatal, and also highly communicable to her child, on the ground that even if external intervention is involved, the decision whether to proceed should still ultimately be up to the parents and not to society. That is the essence of Professor Lord Winston's defence of his decision to give *in-vitro* fertilisation (IVF) treatment to Sheila, an HIV-positive patient, and to offer it to other HIV-positive women.

It is, on the contrary, a gigantic step – and it is too far. The distinction is one of accessory before, rather than after the fact, between mitigating the ills inflicted by nature and scientifically creating a problem. It is one thing for a doctor to help a patient in trouble by making the best of a bad job; if blood tests reveal that an already pregnant woman is HIV-positive, for example, she will be told and given the option of abortion, but put under no pressure to do so. But it is quite another matter for a doctor deliberately to create the possibility of bringing into the world an HIV-positive child, and one whose mother is likely to die in its infancy.

Most IVF units decline to treat parents liable to transmit the most severely disabling or fatal diseases to their baby. In the interest of the child, Professor Winston's unit screens IVF eggs for cancer and other diseases such as cystic fibrosis, to reduce or eliminate these known risks from assisted preg-

nancies. Screening for HIV is not possible: Professor Winston puts the risk of transmission to the baby at a minimum of 7 per cent; the Western average for non-IVF births to HIV-positive mothers is 15-20 per cent.

A coefficient of forces may be at work here, as medical interest in an experiment which could tell scientists more about AIDS meets the pseudo-ethics of political correctness. It is unlikely to produce a public good. "Yes, the child might die of AIDS," Professor Winston wrote yesterday on the page opposite. To die of AIDS is so unpleasant that the thought of assisting the creation of a child at risk of being born under such a death sentence ought surely to be unconscionable.

It might die after its mother, too. Professor Winston insists that his patients must be otherwise healthy and have carried HIV for eight or more years without contracting AIDS. A patient like Sheila might, as he hopes, live several years before succumbing to AIDS; but she might not. The chances of her escaping it entirely remain so small as to be statistically insignificant.

When HIV was first identified and its scale known, campaigners rightly insisted on "equal treatment" for AIDS victims. The pendulum has now swung too far; sensible treatment of HIV-sufferers is bedevilled by positive discrimination. Professor Winston cites the support of his local ethics committee; but why should IVF treatment be ethical for HIV sufferers yet frowned upon for those with other diseases, and indeed for totally fit women in their forties? This treatment was not on the NHS; but that should not license irrationality: and the real costs to society of caring for an HIV-positive child also have to be factored in. Professor

Winston expresses astonishment at the "seemingly prejudiced" reaction of his team when he put the question to them. They argued not that this treatment was too costly, but that it was too grave a gamble with the life of a child. There was not the voice of prejudice, but of common humanity.

SORRY IS THE HARDEST WORD

But 'it hurt' has been hard for the Tories too

Yes, it hurt. But will it work? After some agonising, the Tories have taken the decision to come clean with the voters. Posters will go up all over Britain in the next few weeks admitting that the recession and subsequent tax rises caused people to suffer; but claiming that the medicine led to recovery. This campaign has been long in the conception. It may not achieve the necessary recovery in popularity. But it is the best chance that the Conservatives have.

When Tory politicians claim to voters that the economic uplands are sunlit, people cannot dislodge their contempt. Laughter is the most positive emotion that greets such a message. What voters say they want is for the governing party first to acknowledge the pain of the early 1990s, the high mortgage rates and the broken tax promises. Until that admission has been made, ministers' words invite little more than derision.

If anything will win the Tories the next election, it will be Britain's economic performance. But the correlation between disposable income and voting intentions is not as automatic as Michael Heseltine appears to think. Before voters will be willing to switch their loyalty back to the Conservative Party, they have both to recognise the economic recovery and to give the Government credit for it. This poster campaign is designed to provide the wiring that will reconnect economic optimism with support for the Conservatives.

These posters are planned as the first in a three-stage campaign. After the acknowledgement of pain we can expect more good economic news; then the traditional "don't let Labour ruin it" message. Several million pounds will be spent over the summer, and

more will be needed for the phoney war that will follow. The hope of Central Office is that success will feed on itself. As the opinion polls improve, potential benefactors may scent at least the chance of victory. Then it will be easier to persuade them that their money is not being poured down the drain.

In the old days, getting such a message across was both cheaper and more effective. Plain sections of the press could be relied upon to disseminate the Tory view, lending editorial respectability to what could otherwise be dismissed as partisan claims. Now even loyalist newspapers are less loyal. Ministers available for TV performance are either jaded or nonentities or both. Advertising, therefore, may be the only means of touching hearts and minds.

But will it work? "Never apologise, never explain" has been the guiding principle of politicians down the ages. It also infuriates most people. In this campaign, the Conservatives have gone against the latter axiom; they have not quite addressed the former. "Yes, it hurt" is not quite the same as saying sorry.

Ministers are still claiming that the high interest rates and tax rises were necessary merely because of the world recession. In fact, they were caused by bad economic management, profligate spending and a determination to remain in the ERM long after it was clear that such a policy was bad for Britain.

Sophisticated voters will spot this omission. They may not be mollified even now.

But this campaign is still a sensible initiative. It will not guarantee that the Tories win the election. But without it, they would not have had a hope.

LATIN INTO ENGLISH

Lighter thoughts from our darkest hour

Why did the Romans invade Britain? Once here, why did they not finish the job? Anyone seeking answers to questions which are still pertinent to our continental relationships should thank the Weston Foundation for its £1.75 million gift to the British Museum yesterday. A core part of our heritage will at last have a brighter home.

There is much scholarly argument about why Julius Caesar came to Britain in 55 BC. Most probably he came because he needed new victories to keep himself in power in Rome. Only something more impressive than mere Gallic War would stop his enemies taking away his legions and putting a dagger in his back 11 years earlier than they did.

His propagandists, however, had to claim that economic arguments justified the two brief invasions and a costly Channel fleet, the like of which would not be seen again for 20 centuries. This first attempt to put Britain under European sway was backed by tales of an island stuffed with precious metals: in fact, there were hunting-dogs, slaves and wood. But that did not matter to Caesar, who, like later integrationists, preferred to cloak political aims in economic guise.

Even this device was not a big success. While his first sortie across the Channel won triumphant excitement at Rome, the second was seen for the waste that it truly was. When he left, the islands had not been half conquered. Those "friendly" Britons left

behind were patently self-interested, unrepresentative and unreliable. Caesar had to recoup his popularity with bread and circuses paid for by serious loot from Gaul.

It was 100 years before the Romans returned. The focus of the British Museum collection is on the following centuries, during which Britons found their first heroine, Boudicca, their first famous wall, Hadrian's, and their first official North-South divide: Septimius Severus, putting politics before geography, called the bit of England close to the continent "superior" and the northern zones "inferior".

Septimius had his own special grudge against Britain because its then military boss, Clodius Albinus, had challenged him unsuccessfully for Europe's top job. Septimius saw these islands as Jacques Sante might perhaps see the home of his own challenger for the presidency of the European Commission, Sir Leon Brittan. The subsequent division of Britain was the first occasion on which the great continents saw us as a genuine source of threat.

But still there was no real profit for the Roman state. Tax as they might, the cost of these islands was greater than the reward. So, once the political initiative collapsed, there was nothing to keep the invaders here. Like the last Britons of the Raj in years to come, they finally left for home, complaining about how standards at Rome had fallen while they were away.

Failure of private anti-stalking Bill

From Mr A. T. Lawson-Cruttenden

Sir, As the advisor to Mrs Janet Anderson, MP, on the legal drafting of her anti-stalking Bill, I believe that the Government's failure to support this Bill (report, May 11) raises a number of constitutional issues.

Parliament (which is electorally accountable) enacts the law, and the courts (which are not) apply Parliament's law to each case. The purpose of law is the preservation of the Queen's peace. Enforcement is left to the police, who are independent of the Government. These are the traditional constitutional "checks and balances".

The need for the Bill is obvious. The police are not effectively prosecuting stalkers under the existing law. The courts are unable to convict them. Stalkers undoubtedly harass and molest their victims. Anarchy exists in this area.

The Government objected that the offence of stalking was too widely drafted. Consequently there is no law and the courts have no power to deal with this area of behaviour. In effect, the Government is not prepared to trust its courts to interpret broad legislation in proper and judicial manner.

Consequently, the challenge must lie with the courts to widen the existing law as quickly and as effectively as possible. We have already seen a conviction for "psychological grievous bodily harm" (report, March 5) which did not involve assault by its ordinary definition. Other convictions for wider offences must surely follow if the courts are to address the vacuum left by the Government.

Yours etc,
TIMOTHY LAWSON-CRUTTENDEN

(Solicitor Advocate),
Lawson-Cruttenden & Co,
17 Red Lion Square, WC1.

May 13.

From Mrs Evonne von Heussen

Sir, Using the proposals of the National Anti-Stalking and Harassment Campaign and Support Association (Nash) as a blueprint, the Home Office began developing anti-stalking legislation two years ago. Clearly, the Government's reaction to Janet Anderson's Bill is far from the point-scoring she has claimed it to be. Of the positive responses from the 649 MPs whom we approached for support, 70 per cent were Conservative, 17 per cent were Labour and 13 per cent came from other parties.

Without consultation with us, Mrs Anderson used our proposals yet provided an ineffective and unenforceable Bill. From the outset Nash has tried to keep the issue of stalking non-partisan by seeking assistance and support from all quarters. We feel it is unfortunate that the issue has now become a political football.

Yours faithfully,
EVONNE von HEUSSEN, Director,
National Anti-Stalking and
Harassment Campaign and
Support Association,
Bath Place Community Venture,
Bath Place, Leamington Spa,
Warwickshire.

May 12.

Thatcher and Church

From Dr David J. Girling

Sir, I should like to add a personal note to Dr Alan Webster's letter (May 11). Shortly after the end of the Falkland War I was in Buenos Aires and, as is my practice as a member of the Church of England when visiting a predominantly Roman Catholic country, I attended Mass, going into the vestry beforehand to ensure that the priest was happy to give me Communion. He spoke no English or French and I no Spanish. Nevertheless, with signs and minimal English from the altar boy, I made myself understood, asking that we pray for reconciliation between our two countries.

Contrary to Ms Maddox's claim, in

168 hours of broadcasting over the past week, *Galatea parisienne* and Grieg's Piano Concerto (first movement) were played once, and *Tales from the Vienna Woods* not at all.

Yours faithfully,
ANNA GREGORY,
Head of Music, Classic FM,
Academic House,
24-28 Oval Road, NW1.

May 8.

From the Controller, Radio 3

Sir, Brenda Maddox's interesting article about Radio 3 draws exactly the wrong conclusion from the Sony gold

Causes of death

From Mr J. A. Turnbull

Sir, May I be allowed to correct what appears to be a misconception in the otherwise excellent and informative article by Dr Gary Slapper, "Neglect and the causes of death" (Law, May 4).

Dr Slapper states that 186,598 cases of death were reported to coroners last year, and that this, "in effect", means that the cause of death appeared to be unnatural or violent. This is not correct. Ninety per cent of cases referred to coroners are investigated from the outset on the basis that they are natural deaths, but that a registered medical practitioner has been unable to give a certificate as to the cause.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. TURNBULL
(HM Coroner for the County of West
Yorkshire (Western District)),
City Courts, The Tyrs,
Bradford, West Yorkshire.

May 14.

Letters should carry a daytime
telephone number. They may be
faxed to 0171-782-5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Beatification of Florentine 'heretic'

From Mr D. S. Olby

Sir, As Dominican prior of San Marco in Florence, Savonarola (report and leading article, May 6) was an undoubtedly authoritarian leader. But with the expulsion of the Medici in 1494 the government set up with the prior's hacking was the most widely represented Florence had ever had.

Savonarola disapproved of conspicuous consumption, as the money could have benefited the poor. He also called for the burning of lascivious books and paintings (he believed that art should be Christian, not pagan) and said that it was "contemptuous to God" to portray the Virgin and saints using recognisable local, often immoral, people as models.

There is no suggestion, however, that he disapproved of the Fra Angelico paintings at San Marco – indeed, these were integrated into the communal ritual life of the Dominicans there – and one wonders what were the objects destroyed which you refer to as "some of the city's finest art treasures and ornaments".

Savonarola's treatise, *The Triumph of the Cross*, is a clear statement of orthodoxy Catholic doctrine. He was excommunicated, but that was because he dared to speak out against the immoral lifestyle, the simony and nepotism of Cardinal Albergati. He refused to obey the Pope and was disciplined for

it. You say that it would be "at best eccentric" to beatify Savonarola because he is believed to have been an "enemy of the arts". This is a partial view of his life and ideals. In any case, how many of those beatified have been friends of the arts? And when did this qualify someone to be thus honoured by the Church?

My views are largely based on the two-volume biography of Savonarola by Pasquale Villari, published in English in 1889 and dedicated, astonishingly, to Gladstone. Yours faithfully,
DAVID S. OLBY,
The Hermitage, Church Hill,
Slindon, Nr Arundel, West Sussex.
May 8.

From Canon Donald Nicholson

Sir, I cannot but feel that the Dominicans are ill-advised to promote the be-

atification of Savonarola. However, my caution may be subjectively inspired.

When I was a young curate over 60 years ago my then vicar was white-bearded and therefore did not have to shave daily and did not need a looking-glass over his washbasin. What he had instead was the famous profile of Savonarola which doubtless, morning by morning, inspired his attitude towards the day. Whereupon he came down to breakfast prepared to burn any number of vanities, preferably mine.

It may be of course that something of his attitude rubbed off on to his little victim because many years later in my London parish I seemed to have acquired in the minds of the irreverent as continuous sobriquet: the Savonarola of Sloane Square.

Nothing could be less improbable than the beatification of the Dominican friar. The cause could only evoke the splendid couplet which ends Act 4 of Max Beerbohm's famous spoof, *Savonarola – A Tragedy*:

Then shall you see a cinder, not a man,
Beneath the lightning of the *Vultur* (*Nourish, alarms and excursions, flashes of Varian lightning, roll of drums, etc.*).
There is then led in a large mill-white
horse which the Pope mounts as the curtain falls).

Sincerely,
DONALD NICHOLSON,
St Margaret's Convent,
17 Spital, Aberdeen.
May 10.

From Father John Buckley

Sir, Hagiography is littered with successful rank outsiders. It is a tenet of the Roman Catholic Church that, given metanoia and the presence of the Risen Christ, anybody can become a saint. Just think of it. Mary Magdalene was a prostitute. Paul of Tarsus an exterminator of Christians and of course Augustine of Hippo a fornicating miscreant. Welcome aboard, Saint Savonarola.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN BUCKLEY,
The Presbytery,
Martin Street,
Bishop's Waltham,
Southampton, Hampshire.
May 6.

were visited by the Holy Spirit, but the clergy present went out of their way to ensure that no one in the room was left feeling disturbed or uncomfortable, and there were certainly no animal noises to be heard.

An Alpha course, in my view, is an excellent form of teaching for those with doubts or uncertainties, and a marvellous way of bridging the gap between the very dull type of Christianity that used to be ladled out at most public schools and other similar institutions and worship that is available for practising Christians today.

Yours sincerely,
HELEN WALKER,
7 Bloomfield Park,
Bath, Avon.
May 11.

awarded to Brian Kay as Music Broadcaster of the Year.

We are not restrained but encouraged by the accolade, since all the present adjustments to Radio 3, of which Brian Kay's *Sunday Morning* is a most successful example, have had the air, precisely recognised by the Sony judges Brenda Maddox quotes, of creating a "warm yet authoritative voice" which draws in listeners who might not otherwise listen to the channel.

Contrary to Ms Maddox's claim, in

168 hours of broadcasting over the past week, *Galatea parisienne* and Grieg's Piano Concerto (first movement) were played once, and *Tales from the Vienna Woods* not at all.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN S

OBITUARIES

STANLEY REED

Stanley Reed, Director of the British Film Institute, 1964-72, died on May 4 aged 85. He was born on January 21, 1911.

STANLEY REED did not behave as if he was somebody important, but he was. During the years in which he was Director of the British Film Institute it increased tenfold, becoming an important force in British cultural life. In what many people regard as its golden age, the institute became a focus for every kind of film activity.

The National Film Theatre was a window onto world cinema, the National Film Archive was developed into one of the most important of its kind, the London Film Festival unveiled talent from all over the world and the education department became central to both teachers and students of film. Regional theatres were also developed to provide an alternative programme to mainstream cinema, while the institute's prolific publications became essential reading for anyone interested in cinema. In the area of production, the institute — first through the Experimental Film Fund, then through the Production Board — gave many of Britain's best filmmakers their first break.

Reed did not achieve all this by himself. Although a man of independent spirit, he surrounded himself with people who were equally determined and passionate about cinema. In his time the institute did not resort to the bureaucratic arts of evasion or tend towards aggrandisement rather than development.

Stanley William Reed was born in London's East End. His family were craftsmen. His father was a printer and one of his uncles a cabinet-maker who — as the bookshelves and fittings in Reed's home testified — passed on his skills to his nephew.

As a boy, Reed was something of a rebel, but he won a scholarship to Stratford Grammar School which, unusually for the time, was both progressive and co-educational. It was there that he met his wife, Alicia, one of his classmates, whom he got to know after he had knocked her over on the stairs.



Reed discovered an interest in photography at an early age, and the first of his many cameras was a home-made pinhole. He was also an avid reader who, by his own (perhaps apocryphal) account, would select a book from the local public library, finish it on the way home, and then turn immediately around to take it back and exchange it for another.

He went on to study at the College of St Mark and St John, Chelsea, where he took an external degree and gained a teaching certificate. But perhaps more indicative of what was to come was the fact that he founded the Students' Union, and formed a dramatic society, a choir, an orchestra and a tea club — all in the face of fierce opposition from the college principal.

He started his career as a teacher in West Ham, where he introduced film appreciation into his English class. During the war, he and his wife accompanied groups of evacuees and taught in village schools around the country. Their first daughter, Jane, was born during an air raid over Wellington in Northamptonshire.

In 1951 Reed joined the BFI as its first education officer. He travelled throughout Britain, lecturing, teaching and promoting film education, as well as completing books and other publications, plus television schools broadcasts on film analysis. In 1956 he was appointed secretary.

Film bureaucrats tend to like their film-makers to be either foreign or

dead — preferably both. Then they could be generous and enthusiastic. For Reed however, film-makers were kindred spirits and he strongly supported production. His judgment was impeccable. The list of grantees of the experimental film fund includes hardly a name that is not known in the business or beyond: Tony Richardson, Karel Reisz, Lindsay Anderson, Claude Goretta, Alain Tanner, Kevin Brownlow, Peter Watkins, John Irvin. He appointed Bruce Beresford as the first head of production, then Mamoun Hassan, whom he supported when the latter introduced a policy of financing low-budget feature films.

The reasons behind Reed's retirement in 1972 are not well known. Certainly, he would not refer to them afterwards, not even privately. Many people, in fact, were to consider the whole even a disgraceful episode. In 1971 there was an attempt to have him removed by the combined efforts of members of an action committee of John Davis of Rank who was a governor, and of two film-makers who were also governors.

Reed, it seemed, had set himself on a collision course with the aims of the education department. One member of its staff was heard to say that he would prefer people not to see a film than not to understand why they liked it. Reed would have disagreed with this intimidating view. John Davis, on a different tack, was no supporter of the expansion of regional theatres, while the film-maker governors wanted a change of personnel at the BFI's film magazine *Sight and Sound*, edited by Penelope Houston. They felt the magazine did not support British filmmakers enough. Reed would not budge on any of these issues. But he had two heart attacks during the summer of 1971 and soon after that he announced his retirement.

As a boy, Reed had had a profound interest in his neighbourhood. He was curious about the way it worked and explored everything from the sewers to the cemetery. In his later years he was rarely without a camera, continuing to explore the London he loved.

Stanley Reed is survived by his wife Alicia and by their three daughters.

SIR GAETAN DUVAL, QC

Sir Gaetan Duval, QC, Mauritian politician and lawyer, died on May 5 aged 65. He was born on October 8, 1930.

OF THE internationally known figures to have emerged in African politics over the last four decades, one of the most colourful was Sir Gaetan Duval. During his controversial political career in Mauritius he served as Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and Minister of Tourism.

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out of its one-crop economy of sugar. An irrepressible bon vivant, his flamboyance, coupled with his interest in international figures, including British royalty, suited him perfectly for the post of Minister of Tourism. Today tourism is the island's main source of revenue.

Duval's notoriety reached its peak in July 1989 when he was arrested for a murder committed 18 years previously. In the centre of Curepipe, the second town of Mauritius, in the middle of the island, a member of the left-wing party, Mouvement Militant Mauricien, was shot dead while sitting in a car, by someone travelling in a vehicle that had drawn up alongside. The shot was intended for the MMM's party leader, Paul Berenger, who happened to be absent that day from Curepipe. (He is currently Minister for Foreign Affairs in a coalition Government.)

Four men, known to be supporters of Duval's party, were tried and convicted of second-degree murder under the French criminal code. They were sentenced to lengthy terms of imprisonment. On his release from prison, one of the convicted men fingered Duval as the instigator of the murder. The prosecution of Duval was quickly dropped, however, and the ignominy of his arrest did little to dissuade a sufficient number of the electorate from voting for him to be appointed constitutionally to sit in Parliament.

Duval was knighted in 1981. He received several honours from the French Government.

Gaetan Duval was married and divorced from an English woman by whom he had a son, Xavier Luc Duval, who survives him. Until last December his son served as a minister in the Jugernaut Government.

ALBERT MELTZER

Albert Meltzer, anarchist, died on May 7 aged 76. He was born on January 7, 1920.

CONVINCED that all privilege was the enemy of freedom, Albert Meltzer devoted his life to class struggle and libertarian revolution. For 60 years he was a standard-bearer for the international anarchist movement, rebelling not only against the principles of monarchy and capitalism, politicians and bureaucrats, but also against the petty, opportunistic aspirations which sprung up amid revolutionaries themselves.

His 60-year commitment to anarchism remained solid through all the vagaries and battles of the movement's history. He fought Oswald Mosley's blackshirts in Cable Street in 1936, he supported the anarchist communists during the Spanish Revolution and championed anti-Nazi resistance efforts in pre-war Germany. During the 1960s' revival of anarchism he fought off a neo-liberal moderation of its ideals holding through his strict sectarianism to a hardline ideal, which was later to convince countless young people to become active

in the movement during the Thatcherite 1980s.

Albert Isidore Meltzer was born into a Roman Catholic family living in Hackney. Although he attended Laymer Grammar School, Edmonton, he did not stay there long, and his education was largely completed by himself. Like his father, who scraped together enough money to support his family through a motley assortment of jobs — he worked as a salesman, lorry driver, tailor and even soldier — the streetwise Meltzer was to negotiate his way through the Orwellian world of a *Down and Out* London, earning his living as among other things, a fairground promoter, warehouseman, theatre manager and, in later years, as a second-hand bookseller and Fleet Street copytaster.

He occasionally even worked as an extra in films, taking the part of an anarchist prisoner in Leslie Howard's anti-Nazi *Pimpernel Smith* (1941). Howard had insisted that for the sake of authenticity real anarchists should be used to play the concentration camp scenes. However, it was one of his schoolboy experiences which was first to steer him towards the far Left.

where his chief ambitions were always to remain. At Laymer Meltzer learned to box, though the sport was seen as "common" by the school governors and especially by the prospective Labour MP. At the age of just 15, attending his first anarchist meeting, he found himself sparring in an intellectual arena where he defended his sport against the doyenne of the far Left. At this time a neo-liberal trend of thought was beginning to dominate the anarchist movement. Meltzer, adhering to his militant line, was passionately convinced that anarchism should not be

repackaged and marketed as a broader, movement colonised by growing numbers of academic-motivated liberals and pacifists spawned by the disillusionments of war.

It was this coupled with his later scepticism about the student-led New Left of the 1960s, which earned Meltzer a reputation for sectarianism. However, it was this very tendency which was to convince many anarchists of subsequent generations to become active, and Meltzer's hardline convictions were to be responsible for bringing several recruits into the movement over the past 30 years.

In 1967 Meltzer started a satirical magazine called *Cudweed's Cosmopolitan Review*. Two years later, in collaboration with Stuart Christie who had been imprisoned in Spain for his attempted assassination of Franco, he founded the anarchist *Black Cross*. Its magazine was first published in 1968 under the name of *Bulletin* but two years later it became *Black Flag*. It is still printed today.

Together with Stuart Christie, Meltzer also wrote *The Floodgates of Anarchy*, which was published in 1970. He then went on to write *The Anarchists in London, 1935-1955*, published in 1975, a survey of the early part of his own political career, which he followed up with his autobiography *I Couldn't Paint Angels* (1995). Meltzer also founded the Kate Sharpley Library, an archive of anarchist material currently based in Peterborough and probably the most comprehensive archive of its kind in Britain.

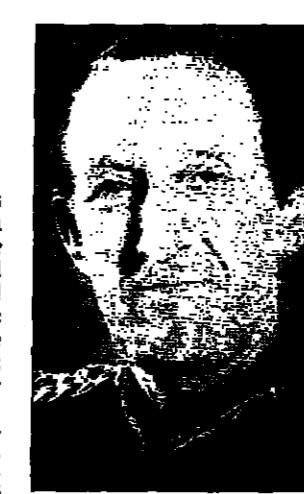
Meltzer remained politically active until the end of his life, and even if his achievements could never have matched up to the loftiness of his hopes, he refused to relent in the pursuit of his ideals. He died after collapsing at an anarcho-syndicalist conference in Weston-super-Mare.

After qualifying, he was given a wartime commission in the RAMC in 1943 and, after serving as the regimental medical officer of the 5th Kings Own Shropshire Light

Infantry for nine months, he was posted to West Africa on the first of his many overseas tours. When the Second World War ended, he took a short service commission and was sent to Malta and Egypt.

By 1951, when his short service commission was due to expire, he had doubts about staying in the Army, even though he had enjoyed the life. He decided to try a civilian medical career and qualified for his DPH (Diploma in Public Health). Not surprisingly for a young man who had already seen something of the world, he found two years in a local public health department more than enough.

The shortage of army doctors in the mid-1950s, caused by the increased military activity during the early phases of the withdrawal from Empire, led to his being welcomed back into the RAMC with the grant of a regular commission as a major.



MAJOR-GENERAL DOUGLAS MILNE

Major-General Douglas Milne, Deputy Director-General of Army Medical Services, 1975-82, died on May 6 aged 76. He was born on May 19, 1919.

DOUGLAS MILNE made his name in the Army as a consultant in preventative medicine, called, in the old days, Army Hygiene, and later Army Health. This came about because at the end of the war one of his early posts had been to the unhealthy climate of the Gold Coast. Milne pursued this specialisation throughout his military career, becoming Professor and Director of Army Health and Research in the Ministry of Defence before going on to be Deputy Director-General of Army Medical Services in 1975.

Douglas Graeme Milne — known by his friends as Dougie — was a modest, unassuming and enormously conscientious Scot. Yet, with a twinkle in his eye, he was always ready to puncture any pomposity. An Aberdonian, he was one of five sons of George Milne, four of whom became doctors. He was educated at Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen, and read medicine at Aberdeen University, where he excelled academically and won a hockey Blue. A quick and agile man, he went on to represent the Army at hockey.

Milne remained politically active until the end of his life, and even if his achievements could never have matched up to the loftiness of his hopes, he refused to relent in the pursuit of his ideals. He died after collapsing at an anarcho-syndicalist conference in Weston-super-Mare. Meltzer never married.

ON THIS DAY

May 15, 1925

Shesha

Although the best known of Haggard's books were set in Africa, others among his 34 adventure novels took place in Iceland, Mexico, and Constantinople. Kipling was a close friend.

1877 he was chosen to serve on the staff of the Special Commissioner to the Transvaal.

Returning to England, he married Mariana Margitson, an heiress, by whom he had four children. He started to write novels, and "King Solomon's Mines", which appeared in 1886, took the town by storm. Its reception convinced Haggard that he had found his true vocation. The book was written very rapidly, in response to a playful challenge on the part of one of the author's

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Why do the traditional universities still have such an advantage over their newer academic rivals?

BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

HONOURS are shared among three very strong departments for the accolade of best business and management providers, catering for both undergraduate and research students.

The London School of Economics, University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, and Warwick University are among five institutions with a grade five for research and an excellent rating for teaching.

Some of the well-known business schools are omitted from the list because they do not run undergraduate courses. For example, the London Business School has been awarded the highest

grades for its teaching and research. New universities rated excellent for business studies include Glamorgan, De Montfort, Kingston and Northumbria.

1	LSE
2	UMIST
3	Warwick
4	Lancaster
5	Strathclyde
6	City
7	Nottingham
8	Loughborough
9	Bath
10	Manchester
11	Oxford
12	Broadbent
13	Cardiff
14	Edinburgh
15	St Andrews
16	Southampton
17	Sheffield
18	Derby
19	Hull
20	Keele

HISTORY

TABLE-topping Cambridge came first among four universities recording the highest grades in both teaching and research history, the others being Birmingham, King's College London and the London School of Economics.

Teaching excellence was named at 18 institutions by the English funding council, including Canterbury Christ Church College. The Welsh funding council judged history excellent at Swansea.

The English funding council concluded that its survey of 89 departments showed: "History students can confidently expect to receive at least a sound education and often a very fine one." It added: "There are good employment rates for history graduates."

However, some modular courses were criticised for

1	Cambridge
2	LSE
3	Oxford
4	Birmingham
5	King's, London
6	York
7	Sheffield
8	Swansea
9	UCL
10	Lancaster
11	Liverpool
12	Royal Holloway
13	Warwick
14	Durham
15	Sussex
16	Hull
17	Queen's, Belfast
18	Leicester
19	Bristol
20	East Anglia
21	Newcastle

GEOGRAPHY

THE ratings for geography are peppered with top-graded departments. Five universities — Bristol, Cambridge, Durham, Oxford and University College London — all managed the maximum for both teaching and research.

A total of 25 others were considered excellent at teaching, including three colleges of higher education: Cheltenham and Gloucester, Canterbury Christ Church and the Liverpool Institute. Sunderland University was rated unsatisfactory, but is likely to be upgraded when a second report is published.

The success of a one-third expansion at third-place Leeds was particularly praised by

1	Cambridge
2	Oxford
3	Durham
4	Bristol
5	UCL
6	Edinburgh
7	Exeter
8	East Anglia
9	Leeds
10	Sheffield
11	Southampton
12	Birmingham
13	Nottingham
14	Reading
15	Lancaster
16	King's
17	Swansea
18	St Andrews
19	LSE
20	Queen Mary & Westfield

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

THE link between excellence in teaching and research is much less marked in mechanical engineering than in most subjects. Only Sheffield University achieved the maximum score in both areas, while four other top-rated research departments were considered merely satisfactory for teaching.

Sheffield was particularly praised for its links with industry, including a visiting professors scheme in engineering design, as well as its emphasis on developing communication and other personal skills. The intake of students has been expanding by 10 per cent a year without any reduction in entry standards.

Two new universities, Coventry and Manchester Metropolitan, made the breakthrough to the top grade for

teaching, but low research grades robbed them of a place in our table.

Assessors found the strain on resources caused by the rapid increase in student numbers and the squeeze on university budgets was beginning to show in a large minority of departments. They added that too many students were dropping out in three out of five institutions providing mechanical engineering courses. The assessors also said the number of female students was low in mechanical engineering, ranging from none on some courses to 12 per cent at most. Schemes to attract more have met with little success.

They also said: "Total student numbers have increased during a period of declining applications resulting in broader entry standards and a

wider ability range."

Students who graduate are being rewarded with high levels of employment.

1	Sheffield
2	Bath
3	Imperial
4	Bristol
5	Cardiff
6	Nottingham
7	UMIST
8	Hull
9	Liverpool
10	Southampton
11	Manchester
12	Strathclyde
13	UCL
14	Leeds
15	Newcastle
16	Loughborough
17	Birmingham
18	Glasgow
19	Aston
20	Queen Mary & Westfield
21	Surrey
22	Swansea

MUSIC

MUSIC is a new subject in our rankings. The assessment of teaching was not complete for last year's guide. The reports suggest that undergraduates are well served in British universities: there is an unusually high proportion of top ratings for teaching, even though top research grades are thin on the ground.

Although not one of the largest subjects, music is available at a wide range of institutions. The Royal College, Royal Academy, the Royal Northern College and the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama were all rated as excellent for teaching.

In Northern Ireland both Queen's, Belfast and Ulster University managed the top rating.

Only Worcester College of Higher Education has been declared unsatisfactory.

ENGLISH

Exeter, for its postgraduate teaching, the University of Tessender and Chichester Institute of Higher Education, Exeter has since been upgraded to excellent. Tessender to satisfactory, and assessors were revising Chichester this week.

Funding council assessors found that demand for English at all the top 20 universities was high. For example, there were 15 applicants for every place at Southampton, which required an average of 25 A level points for entry.

English departments were said to be "well-structured, lucid expositions of complex material, often delivered with verve and wit".

Cambridge, in second place, was matched by Leeds, UCL and Sussex in being awarded the highest gradings for both teaching and research.

The English funding council awarded 30 departments excellent ratings for teaching and the Welsh funding council judged two as excellent. Scottish universities will be assessed for teaching quality next year.

Teaching was graded unsatisfactory at three institutions:

Assessors said the integration of information technology within the curriculum could generally be improved.

For postgraduate courses, for example, they said that library provision was considered "barely adequate" in half of the departments visited, and specific preparation for employment was seldom found.

1 Oxford

2 Cambridge

3 Leeds

4 UCL

5 Birmingham

6 Bath

7 Sussex

8 Nottingham

9 York

10 Lancaster

11 Queen Mary & Westfield

12 Newcastle

13 East London

14 Kingston

15 Greenwich

16 Robert Gordon

17 Manchester Metropolitan

18 Oxford Brookes

19 York

20 South Bank

EAST Anglia's pre-eminence in the area of social work was confirmed when it became the only department to receive top grades in both teaching and research.

A number of former polytechnics and higher education colleges were judged to be among the 16 excellent departments for teaching applied social work by the English funding council, including Anglia Polytechnic University, Huddersfield, Bradford and Ilkley Community College and West London Institute of Higher Education.

In Wales, all six applied social work departments as

sesed were described as satisfactory. Scottish universities have not yet been assessed.

The English funding council found the "long-standing binary divide" between polytechnics and universities was reflected in high scores for teaching quality and application of research at traditional universities and the diverse access and good student support at new universities. However, these two traditions were said to be rapidly converging.

Research was seen as highly beneficial to teaching in older universities, which could benefit from stronger links with social work agencies.

LAW

THE Singapore Government's schedule of British universities recognised for teaching and research, listed in *The Times* on Monday, has introduced new controversy into rankings for the subject.

Although all of the law schools on the island's "white list" appear in our top 20, two of the leading universities are missing.

Both Sheffield and Warwick are among the top ten universities for law, judging by our combination of teaching and research grades and entry standards. But, despite being rated excellent for teaching, neither university has its degrees recognised for immediate admission to the Singapore Bar.

The "white list" was drawn up before teaching had been assessed in England and Wales. The process has only just been completed in Scotland, where new rankings are due before the end of the month. The furore will raise further concerns about the basis for foreign governments' restrictions.

Law degrees command some of the highest entrance requirements in the university system. Some courses have 20 applicants to the place and demand at least three BAs at A

level. More than half of all law students are awarded at least an upper-second class degree, although assessors noted that the proportion of firsts was relatively low considering the subject's high entry standards.

The HEFCE's report on the subject found most teaching to be of good quality. The drop-out rate is relatively low, especially in traditional universities, and about seven out of ten graduates go on to take professional examinations.

In Wales, all five law departments

were rated as satisfactory.

In Northern Ireland,

Queen's University, Belfast, won an "excellent" rating for teaching, narrowly missing a place in our top ten.

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UNIVERSITY GUIDE

Plus where to find the best departments nationwide: our tables list the top universities in 14 subjects

GEOLOGY

20 FIVE universities with top research grades in geology added an excellent rating in teaching when the assessment of teaching quality was completed this year.

Cambridge and Oxford came out on top of *The Times* table because of their more stringent entry requirements. The others with maximum marks were Leeds, Liverpool and Newcastle.

Cambridge, which has one of the largest geology departments in Britain with more than 160 students, was praised in its teaching assessment for its high level of integration between lectures, practical work and tutorials.

Courses are assessed at the end of each year and field courses, while not compulsory, were taken by almost all students. The students were

said to be "forthcoming and articulate", attributes fostered by an emphasis on oral presentations and seminar participation.

Half of Cambridge's geology students progress to higher degree courses.

Leeds, which has an even bigger department, was particularly praised for its rapid development of new teaching and assessment methods. Its modern and applied flavour was enhanced by strong collaboration with industry.

Graduates were said to be held in high esteem by employers.

A total of 18 geology departments were awarded excellent ratings for their teaching by the English funding council, and seven were said to have outstanding research, with some of international quality, at the time of the last assessment.

In Scotland, the subject is taught at just four universities.

COMPUTING

ANTHROPOLOGY is one of the smallest subjects to have been assessed, but it has among the highest success rates. Six of the 14 departments in England have top ratings for both teaching and research. They are Cambridge, the London School of Economics, the School of Oriental and African Studies, University College London, Manchester and Oxford.

Only three of the remaining departments have been rated as less than excellent for teaching. Queen's University, Belfast, Thames Valley and Goldsmiths' College have all been assessed as satisfactory.

The subject is yet to be assessed in Scotland. In Wales, Cardiff and Swansea both received satisfactory ratings for sociology and anthropology degrees.

1 Cambridge
2 Oxford
3 LSE
4 SOAS
5 Manchester
6 Thames
7 UCL
8 Kent
9 Durham
10 Bristol
11 Goldsmiths, London
12 Queen's, Belfast
13 Oxford Brookes
14 Swansea

COMPUTER studies was one of the largest fields assessed in the first round of ratings for teaching quality. Yet only eight out of more than 100 departments achieved the maximum score for both teaching and research. They were Cambridge, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Oxford, Warwick, York and Imperial College London.

The addition of entry grades to the formula used to rank universities here took the two ancient universities to the top of the pile. Taking account of the proportion of staff entered for the last research assessment also separated some departments from the rest.

Two departments received an unsatisfactory rating from their initial inspection. But Thames Valley University has already been promoted to "satisfactory" after a return visit by assessors, and Derby University is likely to follow suit when its second report is published.

However, the funding council's unusually trenchant report on computer studies teaching said there was "no room for complacency". Although ten departments only just missed an excellent rating, as many were "only just satisfactory".

CHEMISTRY

OXFORD and Cambridge remain top of the league in chemistry, with Nottingham replacing Southampton in third place in this year's rankings.

The top ten reflects the dominance in the discipline of the traditional universities, with little change on last year. Leicester moves up to 10th and Glasgow to 14th, both from 18th equal.

However, the Oxbridge departments were not the only ones to record maximum scores for both teaching and research in a competitive field. The feat was repeated by Durham, Nottingham and Southampton.

Excellent teaching was also recognised by assessors from the English funding council at Bristol, Hull, Leeds, Leicester, Imperial, Manchester, Nottingham, Southampton and Warwick.

Three other universities, Lancaster, Reading and Southampton, have also earned top marks in both areas, which are reflected in their placings near the top of the table.

Almost 70 per cent of the classes observed were considered excellent at Reading, where more than half of the graduates went on to do further research.

Reading was especially praised by assessors for its comprehensive library, modern curriculum and high-quality staff. The assessors said: "Favourable staff-student ratios confer considerable advantages and encourage careful recruitment, comprehensive induction and effective academic and pastoral

lead tutorials, seminars and workshops.

Drop-out rates were "unacceptably high" in a minority of institutions, especially in the first year of courses. However many chemistry graduates were successfully going on to further study or employment related to their course.

1 Cambridge
2 Oxford
3 Nottingham
4 Imperial
5 Durham
6 Southampton
7 Leeds
8 Bristol
9 Edinburgh
10 Leicester
11 Manchester
12 Strathclyde
13 St Andrews
14 Glasgow
15 Cardiff
16 Hull
17 Bath
18 East Anglia
19 Newcastle
20 Queen Mary & Westfield

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

EAST Anglia retained its premier position in the environmental science league table by recording an excellent assessment in teaching to add to its top research rating.

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Reading was especially praised by assessors for its comprehensive library, modern curriculum and high-quality staff. The assessors said: "Favourable staff-student ratios confer considerable advantages and encourage careful recruitment, comprehensive induction and effective academic and pastoral

support for students."

In all, 16 of the 55 departments assessed so far have been judged excellent for teaching quality.

Greenwich was one of the former polytechnics awarded an excellent rating for teaching, although its lack of a grading in the last research assessment precluded it from *The Times* top 20.

The only unsatisfactory

grading awarded for teaching has been to North Riding College of Higher Education in Scarborough, North Yorkshire, which has since been revised and is expected to be upgraded to satisfactory.

The college reorganised its field

and laboratory work and improved its library stock and other support services, as well as reviewing the curriculum.

Plymouth, a former polytechnic, moved further up the table to 5th from 11th position last year. Its showing reflects a well-established reputation in

the field with particular strengths in maritime specialities.

Another new university, Herfordshire, which has high entry requirements, also rises into the top ten this year.

Stirling, in 6th place, was

awarded an excellent rating for teaching by the Scottish funding council.

1 East Anglia
2 Lancaster
3 Reading
4 Southampton
5 Plymouth
6 Stirling
7 Kent
8 Herfordshire
9 Queen Mary & Westfield
10 Bradford
11 Cambridge
12 Liverpool
13 Bangor
14 Middlesex
15 Derby
16 Dundee
17 Edinburgh
18 Salford
19 Sheffield
20 Sussex

TOMORROW

Looking ahead: the changes in store for students and universities, the subjects and universities giving the best chance of a job, and how new technology is changing higher education

Desperately seeking dons

When Dennis Kavanagh transferred to Liverpool, his move was likened to that of Stan Collymore, who similarly switched from Nottingham to Merseyside.

The quality of geology teaching in Wales has yet to be assessed.

1 Cambridge
2 Oxford
3 Edinburgh
4 Leeds
5 Birmingham
6 UCL
7 Newcastle
8 Reading
9 Liverpool
10 Bristol
11 Imperial
12 Royal Holloway
13 Queen's, Belfast
14 Southampton
15 Durham
16 Leicester
17 Glasgow
18 Sheffield
19 Keele
20 Aberdeen

David
Charter on the
research
assessments

research at Manchester, was lured to Brunel University in London along with the centre name. His assistant, Dr Pamela Robinson, is moving as part of the same deal.

University common rooms abound with tales of fantastic deals. Several stars are said to have secured non-teaching packages so they can concentrate on their lucrative research projects. Other perks include generous travel deals and relocation expenses.

South Bank University is prominent among former polytechnics seeking to reach the premier league. It has recruited 13 new professors, including several academics from older universities.

Professor Kavanagh's own move was partly as a result of his own desire to leave Nottingham; others have been poached more actively. Professor Michael Jackson left Hull University for the city's former polytechnic on the promise of a reported six-figure budget. He was further tempted by the chance to set up Humberstone's school of systems and information science as dean, with the ability to pick a 35-strong research and support staff.

Activity has been particularly high in the field of education studies. Professor Alan Smithers, the director of the centre of education and employment



Alan Smithers: lured to Brunel University, London

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Is this Britain's ideal lifestyle?

As editor-in-chief of a home style magazine, Sally O'Sullivan influences thousands. She talks to Giles Coren

BRITAIN'S ideal home is just outside York. It is detached, has three to four bedrooms, a large garden, and something entirely new on the coffee table. *Ideal Home* magazine has been revamped, and in the new edition, launched this week with a £1 million marketing campaign, these details, and many more, of the nation's dream domicile are revealed in a reader survey.

The London residence of the new Editor-in-Chief, Sally O'Sullivan, however, is not like that at all. It is vast and maze-like, with a huge snooker room, dining and living rooms crammed with antiques and collections of oddities, walls groaning with pictures, and views over Holland Park square in west London.

Here she lives with her husband Charles Wilson, managing director of the Mirror group and former Editor of *The Times*, and their children Luke, 14, and Lily, 10. She had edited *Options*, *Riva*, *She* and *Harpers & Queen* before leaving *Good Housekeeping* in December last year (having added 100,000 to the circulation) to take the helm of *Ideal Home*, a 75-year-old IPC title, which looks to her to lead it through the battlefield of an ever more competitive market.

"Look how dirty the windows are," she moans, as the sun streams in, and illuminates not only the smears but dust in the air and in patches of overlooked furniture. "That is why this is such a good time for *Ideal Home*. It is only when the sun comes into the house for the first time that you really see it, and think 'God, I must do something'. That is why it is cheaper to spend all day in an office, and only see your home at night."

"I once took a month off work, and it was the most expensive time of my life."

This certainly ties in with the magazine survey's revelation that 96 per cent of decisions on home decoration are made by women. "Charlie's priorities are the books, and his First World War stuff, but I choose all the colour schemes and fabrics."

And does Ms Sullivan, like 60 per cent of the women questioned, do most of the DIY? "We're not into DIY in this house," she says. "We're into PTN. That's Pay Through the Nose. Although Charlie is very good with Hoover belts and defuzzing kettles." While the Sullivan-Wilson house may differ in the specifics from the *Ideal Home* norm (how many have a loft portrait of themselves in a snooker room alcove?) she believes there is a revolution afoot that involves everyone.

"We have the same fascination with our home as the rest of the nation does. But the nature of that fascination has changed. Where people used



Style supremo Sally O'Sullivan lives among a dusty but splendid clutter of antiques and portraits. There comes a time, she says, when you can no longer change your spouse or your looks — just the house

to see their home as primarily the place where they live, now it is all about the way you live.

"At the end of the century, people are spending more time making decisions about where and what they are. They want their home to say, 'this is where we're at. This is us. This is our handle on life.' And magazines must reflect that. *Ideal Home* has kept all the information and consumer advice that was always there, but added 25 per cent more editorial, particularly in fashion, beauty and food."

"Home interest has become a huge area. From only five or six titles ten years ago, there are now 17 — too many players chasing too little money. So

Ideal Home must shift into a more general market."

Since her first editing job, in 1982, the women's magazine market has undergone radical change. "There was a time when you would have thought advertising that all women did was shop, toter round the kitchen and clean lavatories, and wait for an authoritative male voice to tell them what to buy. Now she makes her own decisions. The consumer is queen, and understanding her is a fundamental part of the future."

While she claims that circumstances may not allow her to repeat quite the same success that she had at *Good Housekeeping*, she has rea-

sons for optimism. "Interest in homes is due for a resurgence," she says. "There comes a time in your life when you know you are not going to change your partner, or your job. The only thing left is to change your home. The core *Ideal Home* reader is 40. At that age you can't change the way you look, but a conservatory here, a herbaceous border there..."

So from a position of such power over the consumer can she confess to any hideous miscalculations of her own?

"Oh, I have thrown a lot of the mistakes away. I still have some chocolate-coloured bed linen, and a collection of snow storms which is now in the loo." But the most recent disaster was earlier this year.

"We kept featuring paint finishes, like rag-rolling, in the magazine, and I got very keen on the idea so we had a man come in and do it in the dining room. But when I saw it I just said 'Yuk!' and had it painted over again. That is the problem with working in magazines: if you do it on the pages you think you can do it at home. When I was on *Good Housekeeping* there never seemed to be any food in the house. And then when Christmas comes around you would do nothing about it because you think, 'we did Christmas in August'."

"So when you are running a home magazine, and go back each night to a place that looks like a gypsy encampment, you are always surprised to find that it doesn't look like the lovely house you have just put in the magazine."

When the column eventually arrived, its content was explosive. Alice Thomas Ellis had written a fierce philippic on the reputation of an archbishop who had been one of the most prominent liberal churchmen in Britain, the late Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool, the Most Rev Derek Worlock.

She accused him of diluting the Catholic faith and blamed him for declining church attendances in Liverpool. Mr Coen, a veteran of *The Sunday Times* and *The Sunday Telegraph*, a cradle Catholic who was doing the job as a favour but was unversed in Catholic politics, knew he had a hot property.

His understanding was that Ms Thomas Ellis was leaving the paper. Why not let her go out with all guns blazing? He gave the piece a Fleet Street headline — "My War against Worlock" — and set the presses rolling.

We can only guess what might have happened if Cristina Odone, the Editor on a sabbatical, had been in the chair. Understanding the sensitivities of the Roman Catholic Church and the subtle and unsavory influences put in play on editors who encourage dissent, she would probably have salvaged the article by turning it into a more generalised polemic and cut the personal attack on Worlock.

Once the *Catholic Herald* was published, there was an outcry. Mr Coen quickly found that the politics of Fleet Street are gentler compared with the Machiavellian politics of the Catholic Church. The *Herald* is sold at the back of churches and the clergy can influence sales

downwards as well as upwards.

A week later he signed a long, front-page article apologising unreservedly for the "personal distress and sorrow" caused by Ms Thomas Ellis. He also published a long article defending Worlock's record as well as a letter to the Editor from Otto Herschan, his managing director, saying that the article

(who always sells papers) — and a perception among non-Catholics of an authoritarian Church.

Yet it has been on the high-profile Odone, who submitted her resignation before the article appeared, that most attention has focused. According to Paul Johnson, one of the fundamentalist Catholics she invited into the paper, she is "brilliant and beautiful". *The Guardian* describes the "Frostrupish huskiness" of her voice.

She has widened the editorial appeal of the *Catholic Herald* but also attracted attention with the sort of forthright comments that many don't expect from Catholic women — "I'd love to have sex 9,000 times a day with 6,000 people". Ms Odone might well have edited Ms Thomas Ellis's article but she says that she would not have apologised even if she hadn't. The paper should have stood by its columnist and not lost its nerve.

Mr Coen remains bewildered by the scale of the row and now believes that enforced subservience to the Catholic hierarchy is a constraint on press freedom. As for Ms Odone, her advice to her successor is defiant: "Stick to your guns. Remember you're not just an organ of the Church but a small Fleet Street paper. Don't keep out of mischief, never apologise."

As *The Sun* discovered after the Hillsborough disaster, editors upset Liverpool whether its football fans or its Catholic faithful, at their peril. That peril, however, pinpoints the crucial point raised by the journalism of Ms Thomas Ellis. Another of the traditionalist Catholics that Ms Odone encouraged was the author Piers Paul Read. He sees Ms Thomas Ellis as a witty, acerbic writer who had a legitimate viewpoint. "If writers think they are going to upset bishops, particularly when some are so thin-skinned," he says, "Catholic journalism becomes impossible."



Snowbound: the loo hides a small and surprising secret

Robin Wight on why carmakers may be slashing their TV spending

DO you know how many television car advertisements you have seen in the past 12 months? If you are typical (and clearly a *Times* reader is far from typical) you would have seen 702 spots. That is at least six hours of car advertisements a year, taken at a single sitting.

Or to approach it from the car manufacturers themselves, the Renault Clio, the fifth biggest advertiser, actually spent more on advertising last year than mighty British Airways. But did you really "see" all this advertising?

Research confirms what common sense predicts: there is a vast difference between the actual visibility of these media explosions.

Last year, for example, a French study on car advertisers showed that the same advertising budgets produced visibility scores ranging from 65 per cent to 15 per cent; a difference of four times the impact on the same budget. Hence the attention-grabbing motoring epics that can cost, if rumour of the forthcoming Volvo commercial is to be believed, as much to produce per second as 30 minutes of normal television output.

Vauxhall's Vectra, too, had the special effects computers working (and charging) overtime. And more recently, the Peugeot 406 launch, following the precedent of the burning sugar cane fields of a previous Peugeot launch, seemed more like a nicely shot pop video than a car commercial. For all these stylish investments I cannot, to coin a phrase, believe it's not clutter.

It is one reason why BMW chose to launch its Z3 convertible by placing it on view in the James Bond *GoldenEye* film. Probably the most effective car launch in 1995, it had nothing to do with an advertising agency (and I write as BMW's advertising agent for 17 years). The fact is, the car launch is looking

Big budget TV ads fail to deliver

rather like the overblown privatisation bonanzas of the 1980s when Sir John Bogle spent five times the level of today's Railtrack.

Does car advertising have to be so expensive? BMW's recent 5 Series launch actually spent less than the launch of the Fiat Brava. Compare that with the 26 Opportunities To See (OTS) the Vectra commercial for 96 per cent of the population. A luckless 10 per cent of the population will have seen the advertisement 47 times, making the trench warfare of the First World War seem like a surgical strike.

And where can you put all this television advertising? Car advertisers, unless unreasonably, refuse to share breaks with rival brands. There are only eight quality breaks of prime time every night and there are 48 car brands trying to fill them. Little wonder that TV advertising rates are forced by this demand to rise four times faster than the RPI.

Once upon a time, car companies draped young ladies over the bonnets of new models to gain attention, until it was deemed grotesque. Is the advertising warfare not in danger of becoming grotesque, too? Lord Rutherford, who split the atom on a shoestring at Cambridge, had as his battle cry "We haven't any money, so we've got to think". In car advertising, too much

money seems to be deployed with too little thought, for all the polished artistry of the executions.

My favourite advert of 1995 was a Volkswagen commercial that boasted that the production costs of the commercial were less than the servicing costs of the Volkswagen. However modest the production budget, the idea itself was big.

There is a lesson for all of us here. Calling in talented directors, such as Tony Kaye or Gerard de Thame, to fluff up a flat idea is not the answer. As Volkswagen illustrated, it is the size of the idea and not the size of the production or media budget that makes an advert stand out.

How long can Volvo manage to spend £500 on advertising each car, and Audi £400, when BMW is able to get by on a modest £15? I expect a culling of media and production budgets before too long.

In the search for bold ideas, my friends at EURO RSCG have come up with an interesting technique. It is called "window shopping". Shortly before they pitched against Butterfield Day Devito Hockney for the BT business account, some of their people were allegedly spotted looking into the ground floor studio of BDDH, perhaps trying to see what bright ideas the rival agency were brewing up. I am sure it was a case of mistaken identity, as EURO RSCG are known for their old-fashioned sense of fair play. In any event, nothing was gained by the process as BDDH held on to this flagship account. However, agencies with ground floor studios, such as M&C Saatchi, AMV and indeed my own, WCRS, may be suffering from this syndrome. I have certainly ordered a blinds-down policy. Window shoppers should stick to Bond Street.

• Robin Wight is chairman of WCRS

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NEWS

Lab test casts doubt on IRA cases

At least 12 people may have been wrongly convicted of terrorist offences on the strength of tests at a government laboratory where equipment was contaminated with traces of the explosive RDX, a substance found in Semtex, the Home Office disclosed yesterday.

Michael Howard has ordered an investigation into a series of convictions, which could include some of the most high-profile IRA trials of the past seven years. **Pages 1,2**

Chirac takes train to beef lunch

The Field of the Cloth of Gold it was not. But, given the haughty indifference of capital cities to foreign nabobs, President Chirac of France attracted a very respectable crowd when he arrived in London yesterday for a three-day state visit.

Benefit row
A damaging row has developed in the Shadow Cabinet over whether a Labour government should restore to 12 months the time unemployment benefit is paid. **Page 1**

On the ball

The question raised by football supporters whose memory of the 1966 World Cup final has dimmed is: Why does Germany win everything? The answer lies in the preparation. **Page 1**

Poison letters

A man whose girlfriend left him and refused to let him see their baby sought revenge by sending a letter to all in her home village for the Democratic revival and is proving a thorn in Bob Dole's side. **Page 12**

Strike threat

Nearly 3,000 car workers are threatening to strike because their company wants them to take all of August off. **Page 5**

Security pledge

John Major promised government funding for improved school security in the wake of the murder of the London headmaster Philip Lawrence and the Dunblane massacre. **Page 6**

CJD test case

A woman whose mother died of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, the human form of "mad cow" disease, has launched legal action against the Government. **Page 7**

Dijonnais unable to cut the mustard

The traditionalists of French gastronomy are fighting a valiant rearguard action against foreign imports. Dijon mustard is made from Canadian seed, Chinese truffles are cheaper and every bit as delicious as those from Périgord and wines from America and the Antipodes are undermining one of France's prime exports. **Page 14**



Al Pacino salutes the crowd at the screening of his film *Looking for Richard* in Cannes yesterday. Festival report, page 9

BUSINESS

Inflation target: The Bank of England opposes further cuts in interest rates and believes inflation targets can be met. **Page 27**

Economy: Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, yesterday rejected the argument that Britain would be damaged if it remained outside a single European currency. **Page 27**

Rail interest: The public offer for the sale of shares in Railtrack closes today with early indications of interest from private and institutional investors. **Page 27**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index rose 20.5 points to close at 3759.7. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from \$1.546 to \$1.5160 and from DM2.3216 to DM2.3280. **Page 30**

Kennedy comeback
Senator Edward Kennedy, whose career has been dogged by controversy, has become a metaphor for the Democratic revival and is proving a thorn in Bob Dole's side. **Page 27**

Delhi decides

India looks likely to have a fragile centre-left government after the largely unknown H.D. Deve Gowda emerged as a compromise candidate to be prime minister. **Page 13**

Russian threat

The Russian Defence Minister threatened a new Moscow-Belarus military alliance if Nato recruits new members from eastern Europe. **Page 14**

CJD test case

A hand-written letter smuggled out of Nigeria's infamous Port Harcourt jail describes how Ogoni prisoners are kept in appalling conditions. **Page 15**

Ogoni disclosures

A hand-written letter smuggled out of Nigeria's infamous Port Harcourt jail describes how Ogoni prisoners are kept in appalling conditions. **Page 15**

SPORT

Cricket: Lancashire scored 316 for nine to beat Warwickshire by one wicket and secure a home tie in the quarter-finals of the Benson and Hedges Cup. **Page 52**

Snooker: Terry Griffiths, 48, winner of the world championship at the first attempt in 1979 and one of the game's elite ever since, announced his retirement from competition. **Page 52**

Football: Middlesbrough signed their third Brazilian, Emerson, for £4 million. He will link up with Juninho and Branco. **Page 52**

Rugby League: Bobbie Goulding won the latest skirmish in his battle with Shaun Edwards for the England scrum half position when the team was announced for the European championship. **Page 48**

Football

Middlesbrough signed their third Brazilian, Emerson, for £4 million. He will link up with Juninho and Branco. **Page 52**

Rugby League

Bobbie Goulding won the latest skirmish in his battle with Shaun Edwards for the England scrum half position when the team was announced for the European championship. **Page 48**

ARTS

Worth £170 million? Does Sir Richard Rogers's "crystal palace" scheme for the South Bank arts centre in London deserve to win the largest bid for lottery funds so far? **Page 37**

Bates returns: In the new Simon Gray play at Chichester, *Simply Disconnected*, Alan Bates returns to the character he played two decades ago in Gray's earlier drama, *Otherwise Engaged*. **Page 36**

Museums on show: The television gourmet Loyd Grossman has launched Museums Week, a bid to increase awareness of Britain's 2,000 museums. **Page 37**

Virtuoso touch: The great American violinist Itzhak Perlman was in relaxed and genial form for his Festival Hall recital. **Page 36**

IN THE TIMES

FILMS

Geoff Brown reviews

Larry Clark's Kids, with

Chloe Sevigny (left), plus other films of the week

BOOKS

Sarah Bradford on

Mrs Keppel and her Daughter: a royal

mistress and a wild child

FEATURES

Playing God? Is it the critics who are arrogant when they condemn the offer of fertility treatment to an HIV-positive woman? **Page 17**

Crystal ball: A chance encounter with the clairvoyant Betty Shine caused Eric Wagner to rethink her scepticism. **Page 17**

FASHION

Hot stuff: Grace Bradberry finds out what is hot and what's not on the beach this summer. Some designers have been dipping into the past for a while but glossy, modern California-style pieces tend to dominate. **Page 16**

EDUCATION

Learning curve: The Times Good University Guide: Day three of our five-day series offering a map through the jungle of degree entry. **Pages 22, 23**

THE PAPERS

It is about time that there was a discussion about the European dimension of the German financial crisis. Time, too, to admit to the public that Germany will probably not be able to meet the conditions for the setting up of the European monetary union — that Bonn will not be as quick, nor as strict in fulfilling these conditions as it demands from its partners. That may be unpleasant for the government, but it is the truth.

— *Suddeutsche Zeitung*

STANLEY REED

Parliament is not working well.

Virtually everyone associated with Westminster agrees about that. But

there is no real consensus about what is wrong and why. **Page 10**

EDWARD SPENCER

Stanley Reed, director of the British Film Institute; Sir Gaetan Duval, Mauritian politician and lawyer; Albert Meltzer, anarchist. **Page 21**

DEFENCE

Defeat of anti-stalking bill; beatification of Savonarola; birdwatching in town and country. **Page 19**

EDUCATION

More than 30 per cent of

shares have been

privatised or

sold to private

investors.

It is believed

that the

market

is being

oversubscribed.

The offer

ARTS 36-38



The South Bank adds up its bid for lottery cash

HOMES 45



Timeshare sellers are trying to beat tough EU laws

SPORT 46-52



Football's unsung heroes honoured by Sir Bobby

TELEVISION AND RADIO
Pages 50,51

THE TIMES



BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY MAY 15 1996

Public is likely to get more shares in Railtrack

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

STRONG demand for Railtrack shares from private investors is likely to result in an increased allocation of stock, with more than 30 per cent of the issue going to members of the public.

The offer for the sale of Britain's track and signalling network closes at noon today in the UK with early indications showing substantial interest from potential investors. Among professional institutional investors the offer is thought to be four times subscribed.

A 30 per cent slice of the shares had been intended for private investors but it is believed that will be increased because registrations at share shops have been higher than expected. International investors have until the end of the week to apply.

The shares will be priced on Monday when trading will begin. A price of around 390p or above is anticipated — valuing the company at about £1.95 billion — compared with initial thoughts of 350p-390p.

The greater than expected interest among small shareholders has been attributed to the package of sweeteners offered by the Government and the growing belief that risk factors have been overplayed.

Nigel Hawkins, analyst at Yamaichi, said: "Railtrack offers a good, solid investment, with the prospect of dividend growth of about 7 per cent."

More than 200,000 applications for shares have been received and a last minute surge is expected as share shops send in their final batches of applications. Ordinary investors will pay for shares in two instalments, with the first 190p a share tranche being offered at a 10p discount to City institutions for investors who registered for applications in advance. These investors will receive a further 15p discount on the second payment on June 3 next year.

Shareholders still on the register in September this year will share £69 million of dividends for the financial year to the end of March this year, when the company was still in state ownership.

Pennington, page 29



Governor's view: Eddie George, who believes that the British economy will not be damaged by remaining outside a single European currency

Bank limits Clarke's scope for rate cuts

BY JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS
CORRESPONDENT

THE Bank of England yesterday voiced its opposition to any further cuts in interest rates but appeared relaxed about rates remaining where they are for the time being.

In its latest quarterly *Inflation Report*, the Bank was a little more cautious than it was three months ago although Mervyn King, the Bank's chief economist, acknowledged that there had been little change. The Bank said that it was now judged marginally more likely than not that underlying inflation would be above the Government's 2.5

per cent target in two years' time, given no change in interest rates. In February, it thought the target would, on balance, be hit.

Mr King made it clear that the Bank regarded the last cut in base rates in March as an insurance premium against short-term risks of the economy's faltering as manufacturers struggle with the twin problems of huge stock levels and weaker exports to Europe.

He said: "There is a case for continuing to pay the premium for a short period. But it is not easy to see a case for increasing the premium." In other words, the Bank would not be happy if the Chancellor were to push for another cut in

rates below 6 per cent but is content to leave rates where they are for now.

The Bank believes that inflation will drop over the rest of this year to under the 2.5 per cent, the upper limit of the Government's target of 2.5 per cent or less. However, inflation is then expected to pick up, reaching 2.5 per cent or perhaps just above that level in two years' time.

Whether, and at what stage, the Bank starts to counsel higher rates will depend on whether the stocks situation and economic developments in Europe continue to act as a brake on the British economy and price pressures. On balance, the Bank appears to believe that neither factor will be long-lived and serious. Thereafter, it said that the risks tend towards higher inflation, with the Bank expecting the engine of growth to switch from exports to consumer spending.

The Bank referred to the current economic situation in which manufacturing output has been stagnant but consumer spending appears to be picking up with a warning about the dangers of making policy against such a mixed backdrop. The *Inflation Report* said: "It was precisely at this juncture — with apparent short-term weakness in some sectors masking signs of more buoyant future activity — that

policy mistakes tended to be made in the past."

The City reacted calmly to the Bank's latest analysis of inflation. Some said that, in spite of the report's acknowledgement of short-term risks to the recovery, it would now be harder for the Chancellor to push through another rate cut.

Andrew Cates, of UBS Ltd, said base rates were more than likely to remain at their current 6 per cent but that there was still a possibility that the Chancellor might try for another cut if manufacturing continues to be weak.

"Yesterday's report, however, means that this would almost certainly be without the Bank's blessing," he said.

Worry over fall in labour market

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

DECLINES in Britain's workforce may be hitting longer-term economic growth, the Treasury believes, and the change may reflect the impact of extensive job-cutting.

The Government will today issue the latest unemployment figures, with Whitehall and the City expecting a continuing monthly fall in unemployment of about 10,000 — although building employers yesterday said 30,000 construction jobs may go this year.

Ministers will claim today that declining unemployment indicates the success of government economic policies. Last month's 26,000 fall in seasonally adjusted claimant unemployment took the total of people jobless and claiming benefit, before today's figures, to just under 2.2 million.

Private estimates by Treasury officials about the shrinking workforce suggest that Britain's labour market performance may be hitting economic growth prospects.

After examining new figures on the size of the workforce, and official projections for it, Treasury officials believe that the fifth successive annual fall in the total labour force may imply a reduction in the longer-term trend growth of the economy.

The Treasury currently puts trend economic growth at about 2.5 per cent. While not yet putting any value on the effect of a declining workforce, Treasury officials believe that continuing falls in Britain's labour force may now be affecting growth.

Although the decline in the workforce reflects a range of factors, companies shedding jobs, especially among older men, is likely to be a central reason. The rise in jobs taken by women is not yet compensating for it.

Contrasting trends, page 31

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100 3759.7 (+20.5)
FT-SE All share 1800.25 (-7.41)
Nikkei 21301.05 (+129.23)

New York Dow Jones 3811.78 (+29.18)*
S&P Composite 884.45 (+3.24)*

US RATE 5.75% (5.75%)
Federal Funds 5.75% (5.75%)
Long Bond 6.85%* (6.85%)
Yield 6.85%* (6.85%)

LONDON MONEY

3-month interbank 6.75% (6.75%)
Libor long gilt future (Jun) 106% (106%)

STERLING

New York \$1.5151* (1.5150)
London: S 1.5153 (1.5141)
DM 1.2287 (1.2220)
FFR 7.8792 (7.8533)
SF 1.2516* (1.2493)
Yen 105.78* (104.95)
E Index 94.7 (94.4)

US \$ 1.5151* (1.5150)
London: S 1.5153 (1.5141)
DM 1.2287 (1.2220)
FFR 7.8792 (7.8533)
SF 1.2516* (1.2493)
Yen 105.78* (104.95)
E Index 94.7 (94.4)

Tokyo close Yen 105.05

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Brent 15-day (Jun) \$18.65 (\$18.50)

London close \$391.75 (\$391.35)

* denotes midday trading price

Power cut

PowerGen yesterday

abandoned hopes of relaunching a bid for Midlands Electricity, the company it was stopped from buying by the Government. PowerGen sold its 21 per cent stake yesterday, clearing the way for the third takeover of a regional company by American buyers. Page 29

Warning

Shares in Courtaulds Textiles fell 45p to 375p after the Marks & Spencer underwear supplier and owner of the Gossard, Aristoc and Berlei brands gave a profits warning. Page 52

George foresees euro 'tensions'

BY OUR ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

EDDIE GEORGE, Governor of the Bank of England, yesterday rejected the argument that Britain would be damaged if it remained outside a single European currency, and warned that monetary union would make it difficult to tackle the challenge of high unemployment.

In a keynote lecture to an academic audience in Milan, Mr George laid out the arguments in favour of a single currency and then appeared to demolish most of them in more detail and in stronger

terms than he has done before. The Governor acknowledged fears that, outside a single currency, Britain may be asked to pay a higher-risk premium on its bonds and perhaps lose out on foreign inward investment. He said that more and more member states believe that high unemployment is partly due to structural features of their economies and are embarking on programmes of deregulation and cutting back social provision, which will inevitably impact on European economies.

Some flexibility in setting budgets, interest and exchange rates would be helpful in trying to achieve these changes, Mr George went on. Without such flexibility the only way of tackling unemployment would be through cuts in wages, which would be extraordinarily difficult to achieve.

"It is not difficult in those circumstances to envisage tensions arising for the single monetary policy," he said. "It is in this sense one can envisage political disharmony if the economics of Europe go wrong."

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General Accident cheers insurers

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY



Scott: rates increased

counter worldwide bad-weather claims of £70 million.

GA put up commercial motor rates by 6 per cent in February and personal rates by 4 per cent in April. Mr Scott said: "It looks as though these rates will stick, but it is too early to say whether we will introduce further increases. We are looking to household and contents insurance for better returns."

UK underwriting fell to an £11 million loss (£41 million profit).

Halifax chief heads pay league

BY ANNE ASHWORTH

MIKE BLACKBURN, chief executive of the Halifax Building Society, saw his earnings rise from £378,603 to £404,793 in 1995, according to the society's report and accounts. The sum included a £78,750 bonus.

Mr Blackburn is now the best-paid chief in the building societies, a position formerly held by Andrew Longhurst, chief executive of Cheltenham & Gloucester, now part of Lloyds Bank. In 1994, C&G's last full year of independence, he was paid £54,462.

Jon Foulds, Halifax's part-time chairman, received a 25 per cent rise, from £180,138 to £225,233. His pay has risen by more than 40 per cent over two years.

A Halifax spokesman said that Mr Foulds, who is supposed to work 180 days a year, is now working almost full-time as the society, now merged with the Leeds, prepares itself for its £10 billion flotation next year.

Societies' conference, page 28

Deal heralds BCCI payout

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

A \$1.8 billion compensation deal from the Abu Dhabi authorities, which owned 77 per cent of the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International, has been signed, paving the way for the first payment to creditors by liquidators this summer.

Adil Elias, who sits on the English creditors' committee, said he hoped a dividend of at least 20p in the pound would be made as soon as possible, although the final amount will be subject to court decisions in progress.

An Abu Dhabi spokesman said: "We welcome the completion of the \$1.8 billion agreement with the global liquidators. Our principal concern throughout this affair has been that depositors and creditors of BCCI are treated fairly."

He added: "The majority shareholders have consistently maintained that agreement with the liquidators is the only outcome capable of providing a significant return for creditors. We are pleased that our joint efforts in opposing attacks, that only served to delay payment, have been ultimately successful."

The liquidators, of Deloitte & Touche, refused to be drawn on when a payment would be

□ Investors await Allied's exit from brewing □ Railtrack's price could be raised □ Bank comfort for Clarke and Brown

□ BREWING is the glue that sticks Allied Domecq together, and horribly sticky and enduring it is turning out to be. There is little to be done until the appropriate solvent comes to hand.

Tony Hales, chief executive, ended his briefing to the City yesterday on a note of genuine contrition, accepting that shareholders have had to wait too long for a decent payback on their investment. The main interest was over the future of Carlsberg-Tetley, the three-year-old brewing joint venture with the Danes. The 20 per cent profits fall having been presaged at the annual meeting in February. A pity, therefore, that the board had so little to say.

Carlsberg-Tetley has been on the auction block for the best part of a year with Bass now clearly identified as buyer, so the lack of solid progress is disturbing. There are two snags. Allied's pub estate is locked into a supply agreement at high prices, while the emergence of Bass as Britain's biggest brewer again with almost two fifths of the market raises competition problems.

The supply deal limits further improvements Allied can make on its retail estate. The company would dearly love to unload more "community pubs" — for which read low-profit boozers — and concentrate on branded outlets, now a third of the estate,

but not until the destination of all that expensive beer is settled.

The worry is that Allied, for reasons beyond its control such as the refusal of the Danes to accept the necessary loss, may have left it too long. The venture is in the books at £300 million, but this price might have to come down to compensate for the ending of the supply deal.

Last year, when a sale was first mooted, it was assumed the competition authorities would allow it through in some form after Scotch Courage was allowed to move ahead as Britain's biggest brewer. But since then rulings on competition have become more capricious, most notably in the electricity industry. The temptation must be overpowering, this close to an election, to kick any deal involving the closure of breweries and the loss of jobs to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Until Carlsberg-Tetley is sorted, it is hard to focus on the merits of the rest of Allied Domecq. Mr Hales declined to say how many drinks brands would have to be sold, or even how many Allied has on its

books. The concentration of marketing spend on a core 15 or so would allow huge cost savings, probably in excess of the £5 million indicated yesterday.

The shares sell on an average



market rating of 15 times this year's earnings, which suggests some upside once the glue is finally unstuck. Allied has to get it right, or Sir Christopher Hogg, the new chairman, will take appropriate action at boardroom level. An exit from brewing at a low price could always be blamed on previous management, in the cynical way that these things tend to be done. The question is the timing of that exit.

Deferring to the stags

□ WHEN the man at the ticket agency warns you that seats are in danger of running out, he may not be acting out of concern for your evening's entertainment. Likewise, those sources close to the Railtrack float who talked of overwhelming City interest the day before the books close to the public might have had their own

interests to promote. Railtrack has been one of the most political state sell-offs ever, and neither of the main parties has come out of the affair covered in much glory.

Labour has fudged and muddled, so driving the price down and depriving the Exchequer of income, but said little of worth, capping it all with wildly misleading leaks of a couple of brokers' surveys.

These, it has been suggested by the Opposition, advise that the float be shunned. Quite the opposite, which is why the City has bought in so heavily. Lloyds and NatWest merely warned long-term holders of the damage from Labour policy.

Ministers have responded by pricing the float too low, with

some £69 million of unwarranted extra dividends thrown in as a panic measure. The result will probably be a last-minute rush of forms from share shops this morning and 40 per cent or more of the shares going to the public.

The City thus deprived, and upwards pressure put on the shares once they start trading, the issue can be judged a success as these things go. But here is a suggestion. If there is such an appetite for Railtrack shares, why not break with precedent and confound the critics by pricing the shares well above the indicative 350p to 390p range?

The reason, alas, is that the last thing ministers want is a few hundred thousand small investors deprived of the staggering profits they regard as their right.

A clear run to the polls

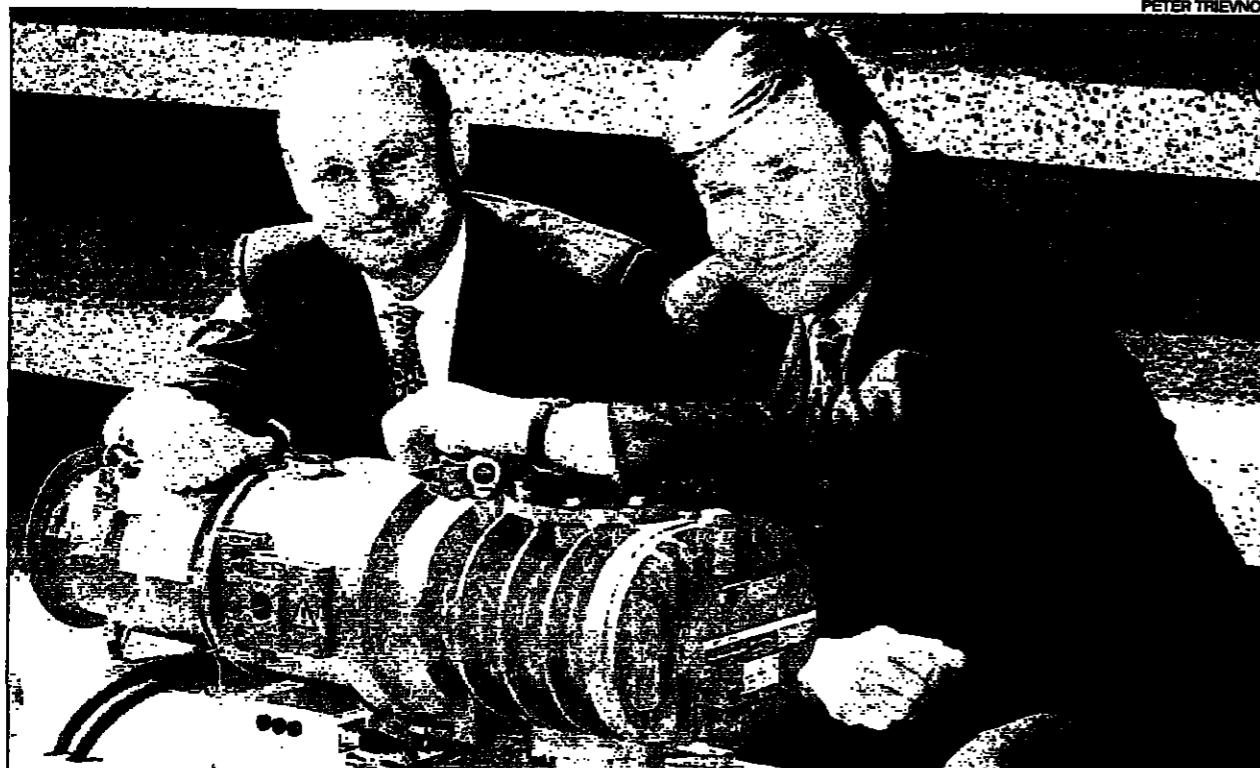
□ WE ARE now so near to an election that the Bank of England's long-range forecast of inflation is equally relevant to Gordon Brown, Chancellor in

ward pressure on inflation later. This is not to suggest a dramatic surge in inflation into the start of the next electoral term. In inimitable Bank-speak, the report says it is "marginally more likely than not" that inflation will be above target. Any incoming Chancellor can be assured that any rate rise he has to make will be modest. It may even establish an immediate reputation for financial probity.

Jobs for the boys

□ SHOWING an admirable willingness to bite the hand that feeds him, Denis MacShane is today enjoying the centenary celebrations of the Engineering Employers' Federation at the House of Commons just hours after calling for the EEF's disappearance. The Labour MP for Rotherham has put down a ten-minute rule Bill for a radical cull of employers' bodies.

He accuses them, quite rightly, of "permanent column-inch warfare": the CBI says this, the Institute of Directors says the opposite, and so on. The EEF and the CBI were in merger talks a few years ago to produce one voice for manufacturing, but nothing came of it. But why does one suspect that there are too many vested interests, not to say lucrative jobs, in the system as it now stands?



Danny Rosenkranz, left, BOC chief executive, and Tony Isaac, finance director, at the firm's plant in Surrey

BOC shrugs off problems in US with 12% advance

BY PAUL DURMAN

BOC GROUP, the industrial gases and healthcare group, has shrugged off problems in the US healthcare market to report a 12 per cent rise in interim pre-tax profits to £217.4 million.

Danny Rosenkranz, BOC chief executive, said consolidation among US hospitals had hit orders for the anaesthetic machines made by Ohmeda, the group's healthcare arm. The lost US sales were almost entirely to blame for a 9 per cent fall in healthcare profits to £28.4 million.

BOC said that it broadly

maintained its share of the anaesthetic gas market. Ohmeda's best-seller, Forane, now faces strong competition from generic rivals.

Mr Rosenkranz ruled out any sale of the healthcare business: "It is not often appreciated how strong we are around the operating room and, increasingly, around the intensive care unit."

The exception is Delta Biotechnology, a Nottingham firm working on a blood replacement compound that costs BOC about £9 million a year. Mr Rosenkranz said:

"The technology has reached a level where it has value. We are looking to find a way of releasing that value..."

BOC Gases increased its contribution by 10 per cent to £197.8 million, with good results from the North Pacific, Europe, the Americas and South Africa. In the UK, BOC enjoyed strong demand and reduced overheads but Mr Rosenkranz acknowledged "slight concern" about prospects for liquid oxygen and liquid nitrogen in the US.

Gas sales rose to £1.38 billion, out of a group total of £1.98 billion for the six months to March 1996. Earnings per share for the half increased by 11 per cent to 27.85p.

Tempus, page 30

Hodder Headline issues surprise profit warning

BY SARAH BAGNALL

SHARES of Hodder Headline fell by nearly 14 per cent yesterday after the publishing group issued a surprise profit warning.

The news came less than a month after the group, which publishes best-selling authors such as Rosamunde Pilcher and John Le Carré, revealed a 30.5 per cent slide in pre-tax profits to £5.7 million in the year to December 31.

Tim Hely Hutchinson, chief executive, warned shareholders at yesterday's annual meeting that first-half profits are "expected to be less than half that reported for the comparative period in 1995".



Hely Hutchinson: downbeat

The shares fell 36p to 224p on the news.

The decline in profits is in spite of an expected 15 per cent rise in first-half sales, which

were boosted by the successful launches of several titles, including Ms Pilcher's *Coming Home*. The fall in profits reflects pressure on margins.

Mr Hely Hutchinson added that the split of profits between the two halves is likely to shift further towards the second half.

He said: "Looking ahead, we believe the relative profitability of the first and second halves will prove to have been abnormal in 1994 and 1995 and we expect a stronger weighting towards the second half, not only in 1996 but also, all else being equal, in future years."

Tempus, page 29

Allied Domecq to tighten its belt

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

ALLIED DOMEQ, the troubled drinks company, yesterday promised to focus on branding and cost-saving measures as the company unveiled a 20 per cent fall in half-year profit to £321 million.

But there was no further indication of the fate of Carlsberg-Tetley, the brewing arm joint-owned with Carlsberg, despite speculation that a sale is imminent. Tony Hale, chief executive, said Allied would concentrate on seeing through the restructuring programme, culminating with the closure

of the Warrington brewery in October. Profits at Carlsberg-Tetley rose 14 per cent to £25 million in the half-year, but overall volumes fell 3 per cent.

Profits in the spirits and wine division fell 21 per cent to £258 million, while those in the Mexican division doubled in Peso terms, although the December devaluation of the Mexican currency caused sterling profits to fall by 16 million.

Allied said it aims to target its spirits portfolio at 15 key brands, including Beefeater gin, Ballantines whisky and

Kahlua, with the marketing spend increasing 5 per cent to £221 million. Profits in the retailing division were 2 per cent ahead at £108 million. The total number of pubs fell by 3 per cent as Allied moved to comply with OFT requirements.

The company said it had saved £12 million through cost cutting in the half-year and expects savings made over the past four years to exceed £50 million next year. An unchanged interim dividend of 9.44p is payable on July 26.

Pennington, this page

Hongkong Telecom profits rise by 14.3%

BY GEORGE SIVELL

HONGKONG TELECOM, 57 per cent owned by Cable and Wireless, has survived the loss of its domestic monopoly, making a net profit of HK\$9.94 billion (£64 million) in the year to March 31, up 14.3 per cent from HK\$8.70 billion and in line with analysts' forecasts.

Brian Smith, chairman of Cable and Wireless and Hong Kong Telecom, said that C&W had no immediate plans to sell a stake in Hong Kong Telecom. He added that China had viewed C&W's recent merger talks with BT as a commercial transaction.

Mr Smith reaffirmed that no further discussions would be held with BT. Speculation is rife in Hong Kong that Chinese or Chinese-backed interests are seeking a stake in Hongkong Telecom before the colony reverts to China in July next year. Turnover for the

year increased to HK\$29.40 billion, from HK\$26.91 billion, and earnings per share rose to 88.8 cents from 78.0 cents. In spite of the loss of its domestic monopoly last year, the company said that total turnover from local telephone services rose 10.9 per cent to HK\$4.07 billion.

Since last July 1, Hongkong Telecom has had competition from New T&T, New World Telecom and Hutchison Telecom. Yesterday, Hongkong Telecom welcomed the recent clarification by Hong Kong's Office of Telecommunications Authority on its monopoly on international services, which it holds until 2006.

Hongkong Telecom is to pay a final dividend of 36.9 cents, boosting total dividend for the year to 67.80 cents from the previous year's total 59.3 cents.

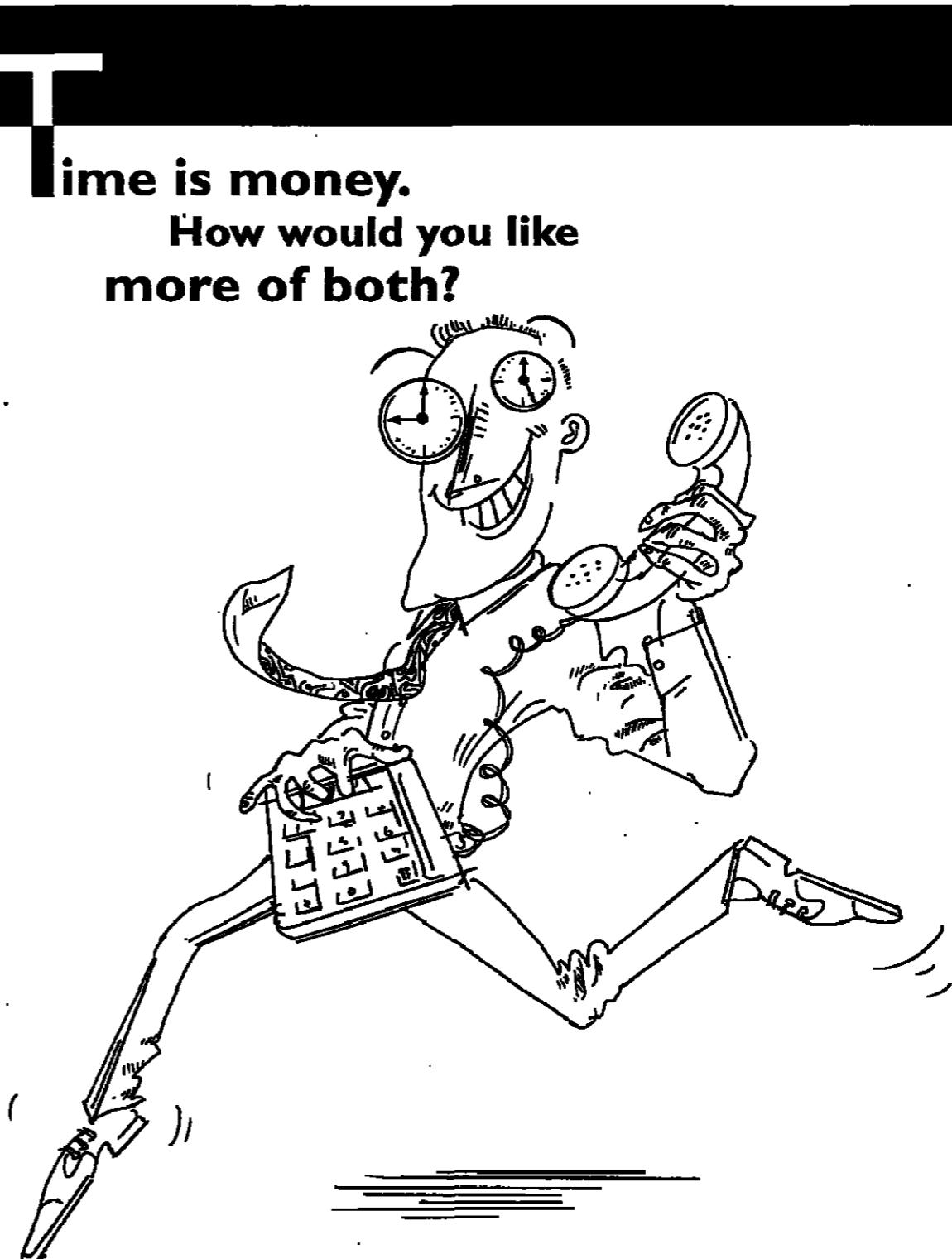
PowerGen sells stake in Midlands

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

POWERGEN yesterday abandoned hope of relaunching a bid for Midlands Electricity, the company it was vetoed from buying by the Government when it sold its 21 per cent stake. This helps to clear the way for the third takeover of a regional company by US buyers.

PowerGen reacted strongly when Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, said its bid — with that of National Power for Southern Electric — could not proceed. The company said it was looking at a judicial challenge to the block. It is no longer expected to follow this path.

PowerGen, which today announces annual results, sold its holding in Midlands to the new bidders for the company — the US utilities General Public Utilities and Cinergy, for £69 million profit.



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Utilities suffer in wake of gas price review

INVESTORS in most of the privatised utilities were left with burnt fingers yesterday after electricity and water stocks were marked sharply lower as dealers digested the implications of Monday's dramatic price review by Ofgas.

British Gas continued to suffer from the shock review by the gas industry regulator and its shares took another battering. The shares fell 6p to 195p, on huge turnover of 83.3 million shares traded, giving a two-day loss of 33p.

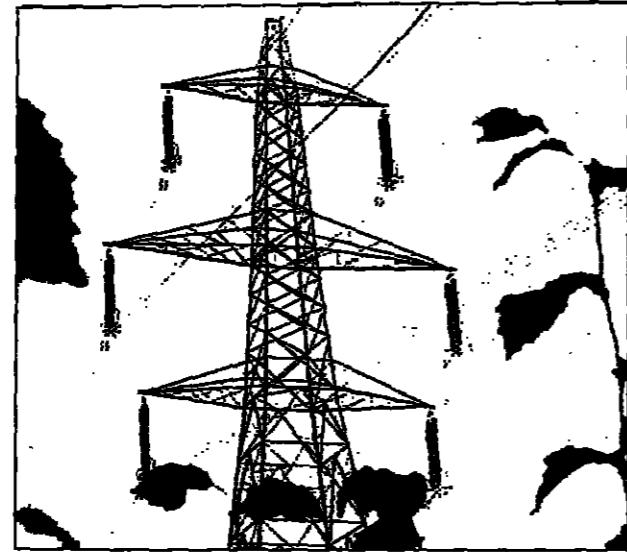
Nigel Hawkins of Yamaichi sees British Gas shares slipping back further to the 175p-180p level. Most analysts also dismissed the idea that British Gas may become a bid target, although one or two think that BP, up 10p to 567p, or Shell, 14p stronger at 914p, could be tempted if the price is right.

The Ofgas review, concern about a tougher stance from other regulators and an absence of news on any of the much-talked-of bids from the United States took a toll of other utilities, with widespread losses for most of the regional electricity companies and water utilities.

Among electricity companies, East Midlands fell 23p to 588p, London 26p to 732p, Northern 19p to 601p, Southern 9p to 813p and Yorkshire 27p to 762p. National Grid was another casualty, losing 6p to 186.2p, on volume of 13.7 million shares.

PowerGen went against the negative trend, rising 8p to 547p after confirming it has sold its 20.4 per cent stake, or 80.3 million shares, in Midlands Electricity (MEB) up 1p to 429p, to Avon Energy Partners of the US. The shares were sold at 440p, giving PowerGen a total of £353.5 million and providing it with a pre-tax profit of £69 million on the transaction. Avon Energy Partners is a joint venture company formed by General Public Utilities Corp and Cinergy Corp for the purchase of MEB. Avon's agreed 1.7 billion offer, made earlier this month, is worth 420p in cash plus a 20p special dividend. PowerGen has brought its results forward to today and there was some market talk the figures may be accompanied by a special dividend.

Among weaker water stocks, Anglian dipped 10p to 564p, Hyder 9p to 716p, Southern 14p to 700p, Thames 5p to 569p, Wessex 7p to 312p and Yorkshire 17p to



Regulatory fears hit shares in power companies

625p. The rest of the equity market turned in a solid performance, buoyed by a strong overnight performance in New York and firmer bonds. The Bank of England's latest Quarterly Bulletin pointed to higher inflation, with the Bank raising its medium-term inflation forecast, dampening hopes of another interest rate cut.

Thomas Potts, the printing company, made a sparkling debut on the Alternative Investment Market. A placing at 100p, accompanied by a 19-for-one bonus issue, gave an initial placing price of 5p. But heavy demand saw the shares double to 10p by the close.

Another positive start on Wall Street reinforced sentiment in late London trading. The FT-SE 100 index rose 20.5 to 3,759.7. However, second-liners, influenced by a poor performance by utilities, saw the FT-SE 250 slip 2.6 points to 4,509.8. Volume reached 760.7 million shares.

Late rumours swirled round City dealing rooms of an imminent big deal in the

over talk by saying it was considering selling all or part of its 32.2 per cent stake, succumbed to profit-taking. The shares fell 3p to 249p.

In contrast to British Gas's grim performance this week, it was a different story for another gas supplier as BOC reported a solid 12 per cent advance in first-half profits. Shares in the industrial and healthcare gases group gained

7p to 931p. Among others reporting, Allied Domex offered little to cheer its shareholders when it unveiled 20 per cent slide in first-half profits. The fall had been expected though shares lost 5p to 497p. General Accident, in line with other insurers, suffered from weather claims in the first quarter, but the continuing takeover speculation in the sector helped the shares to surge 19p to 654p.

BT, also depressed by the regulator's tough stance on privatised utilities, lost 7p to 326.2p, on volume of 14.3 million shares traded.

Hodder Headline slumped 30p to 224p on a gloomy results warning at the book publisher's annual meeting.

A similar bleak message for investors at the Wace annual meeting saw shares in the printing services group dive 44p to 223p. The company said the first half of 1995 will be slightly lower than those of the second half of last year. The group said that while results had improved in March and April, they are still not at satisfactory levels. UK margins and sales have been hit by destocking, higher raw material costs and price pressures.

A US presentation and a Cazenove buy note helped Inspex Group to add 18p to 344p, but Arjo Wiggins dipped 4p to 178p on reports of a sell recommendation from SBC Warburg. Rentokil eased 5p to 379p after Kleinwort Benson switched its stance from buy to hold.

Meyer International, the building materials group that owns the Jevson builders' merchants chain, rose 5p to 453p on recent speculation of a possible bid from Wolseley, which was squeezed 18p higher to 476.2p.

GILT-EDGED: International bonds helped gilts to an early rise and the upward trend resumed after mid-session volatility, inspired by the Bank of England's inflation report. The June long gilt future added 18 ticks to 1062 1/2, as 47,000 contracts were traded. Among conventional stocks, gains stretched to 1% for longer-dated issues, while shorts rose 1% and index-linked 1%.

□ **WACE GROUP: SHARES SLIDE AFTER WARNING OF LOWER PROFITS**

Source: DATASTREAM
FT-SE all-share price index (rebased)
WACE Group share price (pence)

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CITY DIARY

Otherwise engaged

PLenty of time for happy memories to come flooding back at yesterday's memorial service for David Bando, former chief executive at BZW. Caught in terrible London traffic, Bando's widow Olivia arrived 20 minutes late at Southwark Cathedral. Many of the City's senior executives mused merrily on what would have been "Bando's" view of the events. One mumbled: "He'd have roared at the idea of all these dealers being kept from their mobile telephones."

On hold

FIDELITY BROKERAGE has been forced to apologise to customers by way of letter, because of a drastic drop in standards of service. In a personal tone, David Pluchinsky, president, admits "customers have experienced a quality of service from us that has fallen well short of the high standards we set ourselves". Teething problems with a new computer system has led to "unacceptably long delays" in getting through to staff on the telephone.

Republican star

PETER KIRWAN, editor of *Business Age*, who is currently fighting a ruling over his magazine's £2.2 billion estimate of the Queen's worth, has been spotted dining among staunch republicans. The Common Sense Club, founded by Professor Stephen Haseler, republican polemicist Anthony Holden, and PR consultant Brian Basham invited Kirwan to their recent powwow at L'Etoile.



"Some of us have reading difficulties"

Fraternity

THE British Ambassador to Paris will welcome Jacques Chirac to a City lunch at the Guildhall today, with 360 bottles of Bally bought from his younger brother Anthony, executive chairman of Mentzendorff & Co. Since 1858, the firm has represented Bollinger in the UK.

Feeling flat

MICHAEL LONGSHAW, managing director of London's Capital Club, is particularly upset over Will Carling's divorce and the rugby captain's less-than-perfect performance on pitch. Last year, Longshaw invested £1,000 in a magnum of champagne, signed by Will and the English team, which he hoped Capital Club members would pay a right Royal price for. So far, the highest bidder has pitched a measly £130.

Royal revelation

THE paint is still drying on the walls of the Baltic Exchange in preparation for the Duke of Edinburgh's visit today. Prince Philip, who was due to open the new Exchange building last November, had to pull out at the eleventh hour after Bill Clinton arrived unexpectedly at Buck House. As an honorary member, the Duke will unveil a £30,000 tympanum — a 15-foot replica of the stonework that graced the entrance to the original Exchange building before it was bombed in 1992.

MORAG PRESTON



Contrasting trends among jobless threaten growth

Philip Bassett on the vanishing workforce and the unemployed young and old

Soon after the Government announces today what ministers hope will be another fall in unemployment, Tony Blair will unveil Labour's plans to tackle a "lost generation" of jobless young people. Labour's proposals for the under-25s, under the title of Target 2000, will include the scrapping of the current Youth Training scheme, as forecast by *The Times* last week, as well as further moves on the party's welfare-to-work plans. This comes as UK business leaders, spearheaded by Howard Davies, Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, have begun to urge organisations in the UK to push for "balanced-age" workforces.

Both moves reflect a deeper concern among senior economic policymakers about the impact on Britain's economic and competitive performance of its shrinking workforce — not just the ravages of still-high unemployment, whatever today's changes in the number of people out of work and claiming benefit show, but the fact that the number of people ready, willing and able to work at all now seems set on a decline trend.

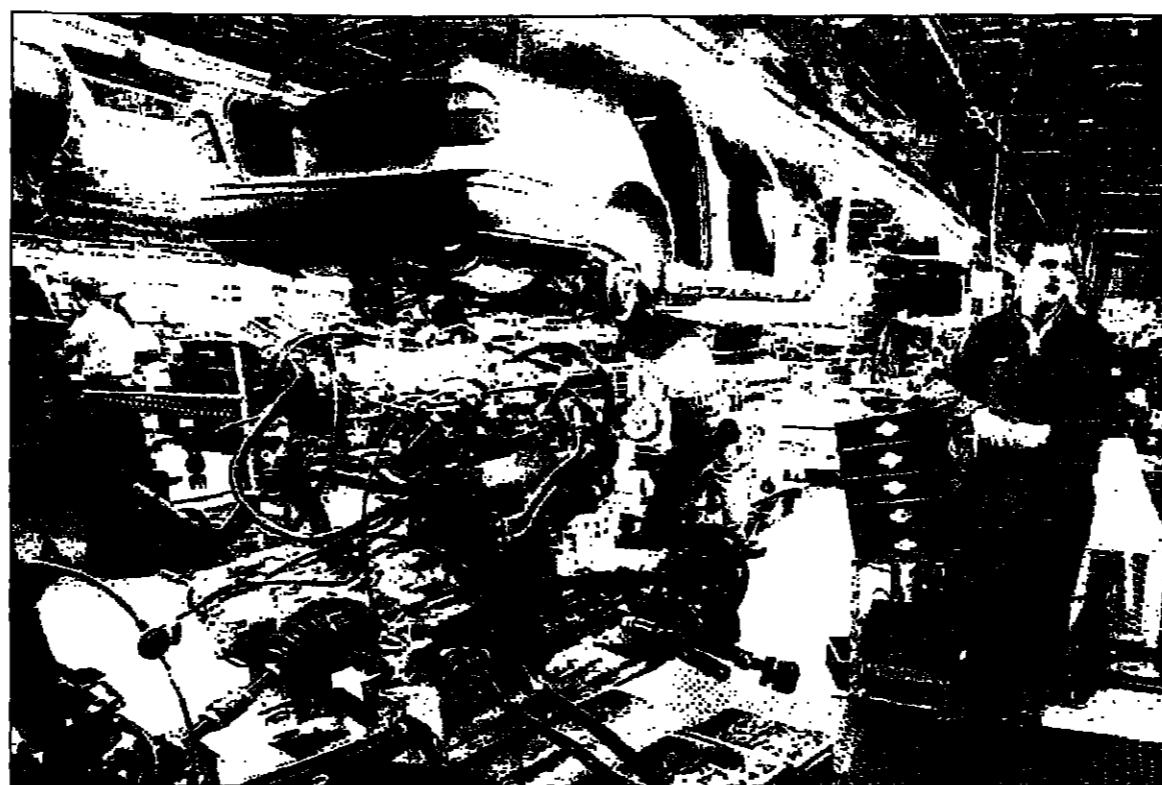
The Government last week published, unnoticed, new figures showing that Britain's workforce fell again in 1995 — for the fifth year running. While a one-year fall may be a blip, and two an interesting phenomenon, five looks like a trend. The cumulative drop in the workforce over the five-year period amounts to 492,000 people.

Out of a workforce of 27.7 million, such a drop — even the cumulative figure amounts to only 1.8 per cent of the current total — looks like small change. But the direction of the movement, as much as the scale of it, is enough to cause alarm bells to ring in the economic policy citadels of Britain.

Treasury officials are privately making clear their concern about the trend, to the extent of giving warnings that it may well lead to a reduction in Britain's long-term economic growth rate. While even privately they put no definite figures on their judgment yet, their view contrasts markedly with that of their political master, Kenneth Clarke.

The Chancellor managed in the last Budget's accompanying *Red Book* to lift the official estimate of the economy's long-term sustainable growth rate from 2.25 to 2.5 per cent, though he is said to believe that the real rate may be nearer 3 per cent.

The Treasury's private concerns about the economic impact of a falling workforce coincides with similar developments elsewhere. In the US, in particular, key gurus of job-cutting, who dressed it up in fashionable euphemisms such as "downsizing" and "restructuring", are now recanting. President Clinton's study group on downsizing is likely to come up with policy recommendations for greater



The predicted rise in the number of men in the workforce over the next ten years is less than the fall in the past five

corporate citizenship which have been strongly promoted in America by Robert Reich, his Labor Secretary.

In the UK, from its all-time high of 28.2 million in the spring of 1990, before the recession hit, Britain's workforce has been falling steadily. Or more precisely, Britain's male workforce has.

Over the period 1990-95, the number of men in the labour force fell by 498,000 —

down from just over 16 million to 15.6 million, or a drop of 3.1 per cent. At the same time, the female labour force grew, by a marginal 6,000, to 12.2 million. What the Treasury and others are now concerned about is the effect of such changes on Britain's productive capacity: that the economy cannot grow

in line with the longer-term trend in

number of men in the workforce is set to increase over the next decade by 429,000, or 2.75 per cent, while the number of women is forecast to go up by 1.1 million, or more than 9 per cent. If such estimates are in any way correct, they will still not balance out the decline in the male labour force since the start of the 1990s: over the whole period 1990-2006, the number of men in the labour force will be down by 69,000.

This reflects longer-running trends.

Since 1971, the number of women in the labour market has risen by almost a third, from 9.4 million to 12.1 million in 1995. At the same time, in spite of the ups and downs of job creation and loss, the male workforce is, at 15.6 million in 1995, effectively the same as in 1971.

Within all this, age is an important factor, as Mr Blair will underline today and Mr Davies emphasised on Monday from opposite — though both insist, not contradictory — ends of the spectrum of concern. As downsizing companies have shed their older and mainly male employees, taking the cost on the

pension fund, early retirements have

risen sharply and more men have moved out of the workforce.

Drawing on a complex blend of birth

rates, fertility rates (which affect economic activity rates for women under 45), immigration levels, and overall activity rates, including the effect of more people staying on longer in full-time education, the Government's Office for National Statistics suggests a changed future shape for the UK workforce over the next decade. The Government suggests, for instance, that by 2006, Britain's workforce will be older, driven by a projected rise of 1.9 million people in the 35-54 age band, and a fall of 1.2 million in the under-35 age range.

Such figures with obvious implications offer a startling challenge

But are already having an impact. Take unemployment. Business leaders launching their Employers for Age campaign this week said that in emphasising the commercial and economic importance of both recruiting and retaining older workers, they were not pushing a second-order economic issue against the more pressing concerns of often long-term unemployed young people.

While accepting the importance of not

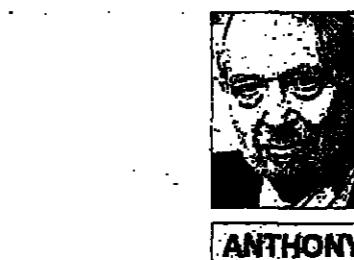
dispensing with experience, Mr Blair and a galaxy of Labour figures will today in the August surroundings of the Institution of Civil Engineers set the creation of a new economic environment for young people as a central priority for

young people.

Although unemployment overall is

down, over the past year a disturbing new trend has emerged: at the same time as the overall fall in joblessness, unemployment among young people aged 16-19 is rising again. The story is different among young men and young women. Unemployment among women aged 16-19 fell, by 4.4 per cent, in line with decreases in all the female age bands. But among males aged 16-19, unemployment was up by 9.6 per cent in a single year. Only among the small number of men still in the workforce beyond retirement age — estimated at about 250,000 — did unemployment rise more rapidly. Such figures, with their obvious implications for social cohesion, let alone economic performance, offer a startling challenge to policymakers.

Thus, the worrying demographics of the labour market lurk behind today's political arguments. If the Government's projections are right, and Britain's workforce starts to grow again, then economic growth, if not assured, is at least likely to maintain its trend levels. But if the pattern of the 1990s so far continues, and Britain's workforce continues to decline, then the Treasury's private concerns may spill over into the public arena.



ANTHONY HARRIS

Central banks: ever more glory, ever less power

Alan Greenspan is still being lionised on days when he is not being canonised. The truth of the matter, perhaps, is that he has become marginalised.

American spelling or not, nobody puts it better than Jim Grant — he of the *Interest Rate Observer*. He is reporting on American conditions of placid prosperity: steady growth, no change in interest rates, none in contemplation.

The Federal Reserve, on the other end of the see-saw, is now constrained to mount its deliberately ineffective squeeze. The Bundesbank has a different agenda: to try to revive the whole European economy on its way to EMU. To this end, it has cut the discount rate to 2.5 per cent, another virtual record, but the results are so far unimpressive.

This, ironically, is simply because this is such a visible step on the way to European Monetary Union.

Bond investors do not like the idea of investing marks and being repaid in an "Esperanto currency" as a Bundesbank sceptic has christened the new Euro currency. So bond yields, the best proxy for

German industry's capital costs, have stayed relatively stuck.

And would the putative European central bank, an Esperanto Board managing this currency, do anything

more effective? "I doubt it," said the Carpenter. And if the Federal Reserve is trying to do is to hold the Federal funds rate at 5.25 per cent.

If the Japanese liquidity tide starts flooding again, it may well have to go further and start selling from its own portfolio of Government paper, which would take us into uncharted operational territory.

And if the Federal Reserve actually wanted to impose a squeeze?

The fact is that in globalised financial markets, the central banks around the world are looking more and more like something from the Walrus and the Carpenter, who, you will remember, were strolling on the strand, and wept like anything to see such quantities of sand.

"If 40 mads with 40 mops swept it for 40 years, do you suppose" the Walrus said "that they would get it clear?" "I doubt it" said the Carpenter and shed a bitter tear. Eddie George, the Bank of England Governor, is smarting from rude remarks about the growth of M4, as Hans Tietmeyer, his German counterpart, watching the performance of German M3.

And if Marcus Lusser over in Zurich sheds a bitter tear as he sees the Swiss

hedge funds? Don't be ridiculous.

The correct answer must

be that in a free global financial market, as in any

true market, nobody is in

charge. That is the glory of

free markets — and also the

source of their potential

downfall.

Unchecked markets have the greatest potential for growth, it is true, but history shows that they also have the greatest potential for inflationary explosions, and for crashes.

So what next? Re-regulation? Good guess.

Victoria McKee looks at a campaign to benefit frequent flyers



Farrel Kahn, the founder and first director of the Aviation Health Institute: "The airline industry is the only one with no health executive"

Blast of fresh air for aviation health

Sir Peter Walters, chairman of Smithkline Beecham, used to feel "like a caged lion" on long-haul flights. Then he discovered that if he broke them up with a golfing stopover or to go swimming he'd arrive fresher and ready to do business.

Smithkline Beecham is one of the corporate sponsors behind a new Aviation Health Institute to be launched today by that frequent flyer Sir David Frost, who makes some 30 transatlantic trips a year.

Paul Nicholson, a senior vice-president with the company, who spends half his time in the US and half in Britain, keeps identical wardrobes in both countries to try to feel less disoriented. He, too, understands the strains that long-distance flights place on the business traveller.

The AH's scientific advisory committee is chaired by Sir Magdi Yacoub, the cardiothoracic specialist, who often has to undertake delicate surgery after a long-haul flight. Farrel Kahn, a former petroleum executive turned medical writer and campaigner for airplane passenger health, is founder and director of the institute. "When I travelled for

Burmah Oil I was always fascinated to know why my body was acting strangely, and wanted to find out what one is up against in the air. These days there are bankers who think nothing of going to Hong Kong for dinner but no one has really studied the effects of staying there for a week.

The effects may be minimised by awareness and prevention — from drinking carrot juice several days before a flight to ward off hypoxia, to choosing a seat that is not at the back or near the engines, taking exercise and eating and drinking sensibly in flight.

Sir Peter sees Smithkline Beecham's involvement as vital for "strategic" purposes, since the health and comfort of employees in the air is essential for their performance on the ground.

What is interesting about this institute is that it gets off the ground, is that it has been set up by consumers rather than by the airlines or aircraft manufacturers, or others with vested interests.

Kahn, of course, gets a salary out of it ("a modest one"), he insists, a free office

says, "are caused by hypoxia [a

lack of oxygen], which doesn't affect the healthy but can exacerbate cardiovascular conditions and blood disorders. Gas in body cavities also expands, ears, toothache and recent abdominal surgery."

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BASF Aktiengesellschaft 67056 Ludwigshafen

Allianz Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH, Munich/Germany has notified us in accordance with § 41 paragraph 2 of the Wertpapierhandelsgesetz (Law on Securities Trading) that its share of the voting stock of our company exceeds 10% and altogether amounts to 10.6% (as of January 1, 1996).

Ludwigshafen, May 13, 1996

BASF Aktiengesellschaft
The Board of Executive
Directors



IMPORTANT NOTICE RE CHANGE OF OPENING HOURS

Banco do Brasil S.A. wishes to inform clients and correspondent banks in the United Kingdom that, with effect from 3rd June 1996, the counters of the London branch will be open to the public on London business days between the hours of 12pm and 4pm daily. Access to the Bank for purposes other than retail transactions will remain unchanged.

1996	High	Low	Company	Price	Div	%	PE
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THE TIMES' INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION SERVICE

Stephen Hoare reports on the plans behind the new generation of prisons being built by private companies

Women prison officers could be the key to the new generation of privately financed jails planned in response to a projected rise in the prison population.

"Women will have a calming influence on the inmates," said Richard Powell, head of Securicor Custodial. He was unveiling his company's plans for the medium-security Bridgend prison in Mid Glamorgan, South Wales, one of two private jails now under construction.

"We're going to be doing our best to reflect a more normal environment," he said. "At the moment a third of the staff we employ for prisoner escorting duties in London are women and I'd expect to see the same proportion at Bridgend."

With 20 applicants for one vacancy, Securicor has no shortage of female recruits for prison escorts. The company's decision to use women officers appears to have been vindicated by the results. After some teething problems, escapes are 85 per cent down on the level they were at when the firm took over its duties from the Metropolitan Police two years ago.

But guarding prisoners is one thing. Building and operating a new jail is an entirely

Jails get the gentle touch

different business. It calls for a high level of management skills and a deep understanding of how prison communities operate.

Securicor and its business competitors — such as Group 4 and American security firms Wackenhut and the Correction Corporation of America — are teaming up with construction and facilities management firms to bid for lucrative pickings under the Government's Private Finance Initiative. Up to 12 new jails are needed and all are expected to go down the PFI route with 25-year operating contracts each worth £250 million for the winning consortia.

The complete package, from design through to building and operation, is where the

local colleges and the business community.

To build Bridgend, Securicor has teamed up with construction firms Costain and Skanska, facilities management consultancy W.S. Atkins and the architect Richard Seiffert. Due for completion on December 15, when the first prisoners arrive and the Home Office starts paying the private operator, the jail incorporates the findings of two recent reports into prison security. Stuart Fraser, a Costain director, says: "To all intents and purposes this is a Category A jail. We are well ahead of the game."

An important part of the design are large, multi-use buildings which minimise the need for prisoners to move between blocks and consequently the opportunities for escape. The design also avoids dog-leg corridors and blind turnings, and incorporates sight lines for CCTV monitoring. Cell furniture is what Mr Powell describes as "robust".

The Home Office — which has long employed women officers in its prisons — will have a permanent representative on site to monitor conditions and to adjudicate in disciplinary cases where prisoners could lose remission for misconduct.



Calming influence: watched by a woman warder, an inmate learns to work a lathe

IN BRIEF

Atkins group favoured

ATCARE consortium, led by W.S. Atkins, is the preferred bidder to design, build, finance and operate a 308-bed extension to Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester, and two other units on site. Atcare was selected by the South Manchester University Hospital NHS Trust for the Private Finance Initiative proposal, which has yet to receive Treasury approval. Other consortium members include Pall Mall Services and Alfred McAlpine Construction.

THE North Region of the British Institute of Facilities Management is holding a one-day seminar at the Old Trafford Cricket Ground, Manchester, on November 21. The speakers include John Jack, chairman of Procord, Graham Briscoe, of Sun Alliance, and Alison Crompton, of GS Hall. Details: James Lodge on 0161-761 4663.

BLENHEIM Exhibitions & Conferences is launching FM Expo North at the G-MEX Centre, Manchester, on October 22 to 23. It is expected to attract more than 150 exhibitors and up to 3,000 visitors.

SLOTZ, the vending machine distributor, has paid £16.5 million for Terence Piper, a company based in Chessington, Surrey, that designs and assembles vending machines.

SIR Paul Condon and William Taylor, the Commissioners for the Metropolitan and City of London police forces respectively, will be among the speakers at a conference on urban security, organised by Symonds Travers Morgan on June 4 at the Institution of Civil Engineers in London. Details from Sue Curry on 0171-421 2000.

A £200,000 contract for the supply and installation of a building management system to control buildings at Devonport Royal Dockyard in Plymouth has been awarded to Andover Controls by DML, the yard's operator.



Sign of the times: contracted workforces are taking over

Nursing a hospital back to health

Bernard Barbuk describes how outside managers have transformed the running of a hospital group

maximum capacity. Some wards have not seen a lick of paint in years. It has never been possible to take them out of service for long enough.

Private investment has been hard to come by, says Alan Wilkes, the trust's executive head of finance. Eliminating such problems called for a complete change. In 1995 previous trust policy was reversed: tendering and outsourcing became the rule.

From April, the management, maintenance, and strategic planning of the "estate" was contracted out to Mowlem Facility Management (MFM) on a seven to ten-year fixed-fee contract. The development coincided with the merging of the RLH with the Broadgreen

psychiatric hospital, which has been managed as a separate trust.

However, despite emphasising the "open book partnership and team" basis of the relationship, it is still not clear whether the single management command structure has been established.

MFM is responsible for the "strategic management" of the combined trust's estate and its capital programme. The maintenance side of the contract is discharged via its own on-site management partner — the building services company Lorne Stewart. The 53 service personnel (inherited under TUPE, the Transfer of Undertakings Protection of Employment regulations) are Lorne

Stewart employees. Meanwhile, a number of other newly appointed contractors handle aspects of the estate usually included in facilities management remits and report directly to the trust.

Thus, security is contracted to Securicor, greatly aided by a Sensorsmatic CCTV system. Catering, cleaning and portering is a five-year Taylor Plan contract and energy in the form of steam generation is contracted to AHS Emstar.

The first year has been encouraging: a 20 per cent saving on building maintenance costs. Security has improved; much-needed space and staff reductions have been

generated by the rationalisation with Broadgreen four miles away; building maintenance via a help-desk and call-out system is producing a better service with fewer people.

But most of the big leaps forward remain to be taken. For example, replacing the trust's idiosyncratic Unix-based Resman computer system. To quote Ken Thomas, MFM's manager on the spot, this is "strong on input, weak on reporting, and with interfaces limited to car parking and security". Then there is the plan to improve the building management system and introduce low-energy lighting.

Critics could also point to the supply-intensive nature of the new regime, with monthly, quarterly, and annual reports from Mowlem/LS and separate monthly monitoring by the trust itself.

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THEATRE 1

Simon Gray exudes plenty of ennui in his new play for Chichester, *Simply Disconnected*



THEATRE 2

... while in Greenwich the hardships of 1930s Germany are evoked in *What Now, Little Man?*

THE TIMES ARTS



MUSIC 1

An aristocrat on the ivories: the superb Polish pianist Krystian Zimmerman returns to the Festival Hall



MUSIC 2

... and another peerless soloist, the violinist Itzhak Perlman, charms and dazzles in the same venue

CONCERT

Fiddler in fine fettle

WITH a pianist as partner instead of an orchestral context, Itzhak Perlman's consummate fiddle-playing blossoms in a different way, with subtler degrees of light and shade and a relaxed assurance that becomes charmingly disarming.

It almost verged on glibness at the start of Mozart's B Flat Sonata (K454), with which he began his sell-out programme with Bruno Canino, a wise chamber pianist who threatened at first to coarsen the tone of his piano.

Both artists soon settled down, however, with the violinist relishing some throwaway phrases like the equivalents of verbal one-liners, and Canino instinctively matching his partner in the way sustained notes swelled

Perlman/Canino Festival Hall

out. Perlman kept the music in front of him, even when he had no need to refer to it, but perhaps it contained markings that helped towards such firm purpose and sprightly spirit in their playing.

Mozart was followed by Faure, whose youthful A major Sonata, written before those of both Brahms and Franck, was carried in long-breathed violin phrases that swept aside the disparaging remarks often made about it as impassioned eloquence alternated with sensitive feeling.

Both players captured the half-lights that lend a special poetry to the work without diminishing its strength of character, and with notably delicate piano figuration in the Andante movement.

The Franck Sonata itself benefited from expressive fervour in place of romantic rhetoric, the violin musing with gentle lyricism on the modestly contained subject-matter in the opening movement and deferring to the piano's leading voice. Canino met the challenges of the big-handled piano writing and its varied complexities, the violin soaring above like a skylark in full song while its deep G-string was used to generate passionate feeling.

Both players imparted a sense of cogent direction to the free fantasia of the sonata's third movement, and ended it with the most genial of poetic dialogues.

NOEL GOODWIN

THEATRE: Benedict Nightingale on Simon Gray's old character in a new play; plus other reviews

Number unobtainable

Simply Disconnected
Minerva, Chichester

In John Osborne's *Look Back in Anger*, the young Jimmy Porter denounced a Bishop of Bromley who implored Christians to support the H-bomb, and in *Déjâ vu* the old Jimmy Porter was even more scathing about a Bishop of Bromley who wore jeans at his entronement and wrote a book called *An Unemployed Teenager Speaks with Christ*. The irritants had evolved in the 35 years that separated the original play from its sequel, but the malcontent had remained much the same.

Where Osborne robustly led, Simon Gray now follows, exuding relatively little of his usual waspish wit but plenty of his trademark ennui. When we first met his Simon Hench, publisher protagonist of *Otherwise Engaged*, he was listening to *Parsifal* after a day in which his wife told him she had a lover, an old school chum shot himself while muttering accusations into his answering machine, and his horrible lodger moved two horrible friends into the attic. Twenty-five years later we find him semi-retired in the country, yet rather less wholehearted when it comes to closeting himself up with his record-player. The irritants are much the same in *Simply Disconnected* but the malcontent has evolved and, Gray suggests, deepened.

If we remain unconvinced by Hench's deepening, it is not the fault of the actor who again plays him. The Alan Bates of *Otherwise Engaged* brought a truculent swagger to the business of fobbing off others. The Bates of *Disconnected* is sadder as well as older. His Hench still gets people's names wrong, still fakes interest in the problems they obsessively fling at him, still irks them with his emotional aphasia. But now he senses that he is a Martian who has been denied the compass that would give him his bearings on Earth, and at times he seems to rue it.

Especially in the first half of Richard Wilson's production, the plot does not hugely help Bates's performance or Gray's aims. Another ungrateful yob is exploiting him, though this time he is not a lodger but the football hooligan boyfriend of "the girl who does my housework". The critic who interrupted him in *Otherwise Engaged* interrupts him again—in Gawn Grainger's performance a mellower, kinder man but still more nuisance



Fine cast, flawed idea: John Michie, Gawn Grainger, Charles Kay, Rosemary Martin, Benedict Bates, Alan Bates

than friend. His schoolmaster brother also reappears, this time played by Charles Kay and facing accusations of hanky-panky in the changing-room, but still envious, resentful and demanding.

Several times, notably when a sexual adventuress called Davina is discussed, I wondered if anyone who didn't know the earlier play would be puzzled by the sequel. But it is, I suppose, clear that Hench mourns the wife whom he

betrayed and impelled to betray him, and in the second half it becomes obvious that one of his old affairs has borne bitter fruit. A wild, stammering young man appears waving a gun—a super performance by Benedict Bates—and turns out to be the child of a student he casually seduced in his *Otherwise Engaged* phase. Very likely he is Hench's own son.

Here is the play's problem. *Engaged* was brash, sardonic, funny and half-sympathetic, half-judging of Hench's pathological search for privacy. *Disconnected* is less brazen, less funny and far less critical of a protagonist who, it turns out, yearns for a son of his own. That's why Hench offers his houseroom to the boy who has just threatened to shoot him. That's why he ends up begging to babysit for another child that only might be his. He has disconnected his phone, hence the punning title, but part of him wants to be connected.

It is a commendable change, or discovery, of heart but, impressed though I was by Alan Bates's rapt looks and awful howls, I could not quite believe it. It is too radical and, an accusation I never thought I'd direct at Gray, too sentimental. The earlier play aims for less and scores. The sequel aims for more and, amusing and absorbing though it is, does not quite hit the mark.

John Allison talks to the uncompromising pianist Krystian Zimmerman

Only perfection is acceptable

After a Festival Hall appearance four years ago, Krystian Zimmerman was described by Max Lopert as "a superlatively fine pianist, on the way to becoming one of the world's master recitalists". That prediction has surely been fulfilled when it comes to balancing technical perfection with playing of poise, eloquence and virtuosity, the 40-year-old Pole has few equals.

Zimmerman guards this quality by limiting his performances to under 50 a year, and one of these will take place on Friday when he returns to the Festival Hall with a programme of Haydn, Beethoven and Schubert. "It's an excellent place to make music in, because of the audience. I love the people there, and I always see the same faces when I step onto the platform." But it has been two years since his last appearance in London: he cancelled a performance of the Ravel G major Concerto last season when promised rehearsal time was reduced.

"I invested a lot of time and money in playing this concert—I'd bought a new piano especially and adjusted it for this particular piece. I had a precise idea of what I wanted to do in the rehearsals, and when one of them was cancelled I just thought it was too risky to go ahead. It's like someone asking if you really need four wheels for your car. This is our concert life today. We are driving on three wheels and somehow manage to get along. It's become a



Zimmerman: "We're driving on three wheels today"

my home town of Basko to close the baller next year—a company that has existed for 49 years—is a terrible misunderstanding. To close cultural institutions because of saving money—these are two ideas that just don't go together, and something we shouldn't allow our politicians to get away with."

Such principled views are matched in Zimmerman by a deep musical seriousness. He prefers to do his practising in his head. "Banging out something is not music. We don't develop muscles by repeating passages, we develop only transmission, and that's a purely psychological problem. If you touch a musical and artistic experience, but the need to solve interpretational problems in my head means I'm very distracted when there's Muzak around."

Restless and intellectually inquisitive, Zimmerman always seems to be looking for problems to solve. His playing is powered at least in part by a tension between cerebral clarity and spontaneous emotionality: it is hardly surprising that one of his closest musical partnerships was with Bernstein. His interests range through art and literature to mathematics and computers. He speaks at least six languages, yet finds time to be a devoted husband and father. He laments the absence of the Renaissance ideal of a complete human being. But does he look back longingly to the "golden age" of pianism?

"I wouldn't call it a golden age. But people played differently—there were different expectations. The first major change came with records. I remember very well that Rubinstein said to me, 'I started to practise when I started to record—before that I played all over the place.' He thought this was a way forward, but it was also a way backwards—people lost their freedom when they invested everything in accuracy. Before records there was a completely different goal, and that was to mesmerise live audiences. Music was partly a visual thing. I can't imagine charismatic virtuosos like Paganini and Liszt making the same careers on record alone."

Zimmerman's own recordings for Deutsche Grammophon reveal much of his musical personality. His repertory is wide, but as a Pole he finds Chopin, Szymborski and Lutoslawski close to his heart. And Artur Rubinstein is central to his life. "We met after I had won the Chopin Competition in 1975. He invited me for tea, and I walked out about one week later. I kept going back, we talked about so much. When I'm trying to solve a musical problem now, I remember what he told me 15 years ago. Only now with a lot of experience am I finding deeper levels of understanding for what I thought I understood before. I wonder how many levels there are!"

• Krystian Zimmerman plays at the Festival Hall on Friday (0171-960 4222).

Survival of the smallest

HANS FALLADA's novel *Kleiner Mann, Was Nun?* was the international bestseller of 1932. It told of a little husband, his little wife and their even littler baby struggling to survive amid the raging unemployment of the last Weimar years, and ended with them on the outskirts of Berlin, still enduring, with wifey saying "perhaps 1933 will be our year".

Perhaps it was, and the child would grow up to be a 14-year-old Hitler in Hitler's final army.

The story has been staged many times and filmed, too, and this new production is by the valiant and admirable team at Greenwich Studio Theatre, making its first appearance on the main Greenwich stage. Margaret Forsyth directs an adaptation by Julian Forsyth that links the scenes, or covers the scene-changes if you look at it another way, with songs in the style we are told, of the Comedian Harmonists, Germany's most popular musical group around 1930.

The period and the predicaments of the characters are, as in previous productions, fascinating. But the little man is not just little, he's too docile.

Some of this may have been intentional on Fallada's part

JEREMY KINGSTON

Women at work

AS THE Orange Tree's season of 20th-century women's plays pushes on, shared concerns are emerging. In *Ellen Dryden's New Drama*, as in Susan Glaspell's *The Verge*, being a nurturer proves a tricky business. Women are pulled between professional and personal commitments, are mothering on the one hand but inflicting damage on the other.

Dryden's protagonist is a teacher at a comprehensive school. Vivien (Joan Moon) is trying to coax Lisa (Louise Milwood-Haigh), a difficult but bright pupil, into an appreciation of literature. She devotes time to special lessons yet is about to abandon her protégée, becoming a headmistress elsewhere.

Meanwhile, Vivien skimpes on her duties as a daughter. Paralysed down one side by a stroke, her feisty mother Grace (Barbara Lott) being delightfully sardonic) is being

KATE BASSETT

THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS

LONDON

Victoria Palace

May 29

• WINNER of the Olivier Award for Best Musical, *Oliver!* stars Brian Conley as Al Jolson, star of the first "talkie" and a Broadway legend. Tickets are £25 (normally £30) for Theatre Club members, who can also meet the cast after the show over a glass of wine. Tel 0171-824 1317.

Strand Theatre

June 3

• *SEB* — the story of rock'n'roll legend Buddy Holly and enjoy a drink with members of the cast for only £17 (normally £25). Members can also buy top-price tickets for £16 for Monday to Thursday performances throughout May and June. Tel 0171-930 8800.

Apollo Theatre

May 29-June 5

• *ZOE WANAMAKER* takes the title role in A.R. Gurney's ingenious new romantic comedy, *Sylvia*. But this is no conventional lead — this time, Wanamaker is ... a dog. Tickets £15 (normally £21.50) for Mon to Thurs performances and Sat matinees until May 18 and £16 (normally £23.50) until May 25. Tel 0171-494 5070.

GLASGOW

Tramway

May 28-June 1

• *TICKETS £5 (normally £10)* for *Claustraphobia*, a high-octane music and dance performance by the acclaimed May Drama Theatre of St Peterburg. Tickets for either production £8 (normally £10.50) for Tues to Thurs performances and £10 (normally £12.50) for Fri to Sun. Tel 0141-267 3900.

MANCHESTER

Lyceum Theatre

June 4-18

• *TWO tickets for the price of one (£10)* (£7 to £12) for *Charlotte Brontë's Jane Eyre*. Tel 01793 524481.

THEATRE CLUB

Alan Ayckbourn's *Wilderness*

Tel 0161-236 2110

LEEDS

West Yorkshire Playhouse

May 29-June 5

• *SAVE 10 per cent on tickets (£10)* (£8 to £12.50) for *Molière's comedy, The Hypochondriac*. Tel 0113-244 2111.

BIRMINGHAM

Repertory Theatre

May 22-24

• *TWO tickets (£12.50 or £14.50)* for the price of one for the revival of *Anton Loos's Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*. Tel 0121-236 4455.

SALISBURY

Playhouse

May 15-24

• *APHRA BEHN'S best-loved work, The Rover (May 16, 21, 23, 24)* is a deliciously witty Restoration comedy. Her lesser-known *The Banished Cavaliers* (May 17-19, 21-23) is full of biting wit. Tickets for either production £8 (normally £10.50) for Tues to Thurs performances and £10 (normally £12.50) for Fri to Sun. Tel 01422 320333.

SWINDON

Wyvern Theatre

May 27-June 1

• *SAVE £2 on tickets (£10 to £12)* for *Charlotte Brontë's Jane Eyre*. Tel 01793 524481.

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THE 11
Not a change £100 How Bank j its lotte Doe
London's South Bank facelift — but most expensive one, asks A
A more gradual approach that's better in the long run Jenny Mc



■ DESIGN

Not a lot of change out of £170 million? How the South Bank justifies its lottery bid



■ MUSEUMS

Nurturing a country's appetite for culture: Loyd Grossman launches his Museums Week



■ YOUNG ARTS

Britain's most durable show of children's art opens its doors again in Sheffield



■ POP

Techno with a brain: Orbital show the Albert Hall how far they have come in six years

Does this cause deserve £170m?

London's South Bank needs a lottery facelift — but must it be such an expensive one, asks Marcus Binney

The South Bank arts centre will soon be in pole position for the largest lottery grant of all. True, the £170 million cost of the South Bank proposals is less than the £23 million required for the refurbished Royal Opera House, but the lottery's contribution is likely to be much greater — up to 75 per cent — than the £7.5 million offered to Covent Garden.

The South Bank says that the £170 million is spread across seven venues and is a vital piece of urban regeneration beside Britain's new gateway to Europe, the Channel Tunnel terminus. Some 40,000 people work in the Waterloo area, another 5,000 live there. But

the South Bank, for all its glorious music, theatre and art, remains a sterile concrete wasteland disastrously out of character and contact with the rest of London.

So where will the £170 million go? The first £11 million (calculated at 1995 prices) is to be spent on the Hayward, providing it with a second set of exhibition galleries so it no longer has to close between shows. "At present there are no proper environmental controls, and nowhere to unload works of art in safety," Jo Kennedy, the South Bank project director, says.

Another £11 million will go to the Queen Elizabeth Hall. The stage will be adapted for dance and lyric theatre as well as music, with facilities for flying scenery, side wings and an orchestra pit.

Next comes the one "bargain item" on the menu. It is a £1 million transfer of the National Poetry Library to new ground-level premises, followed by £3 million for new education spaces, including

revamping the Purcell Room. On the river front, there is to be a wholly new £12 million auditorium, highly flexible in form and accommodating between 250 and 580 people. "Seats can be taken out to create a theatre in the round, so both modern and older pieces can be staged as composed," Kennedy says.

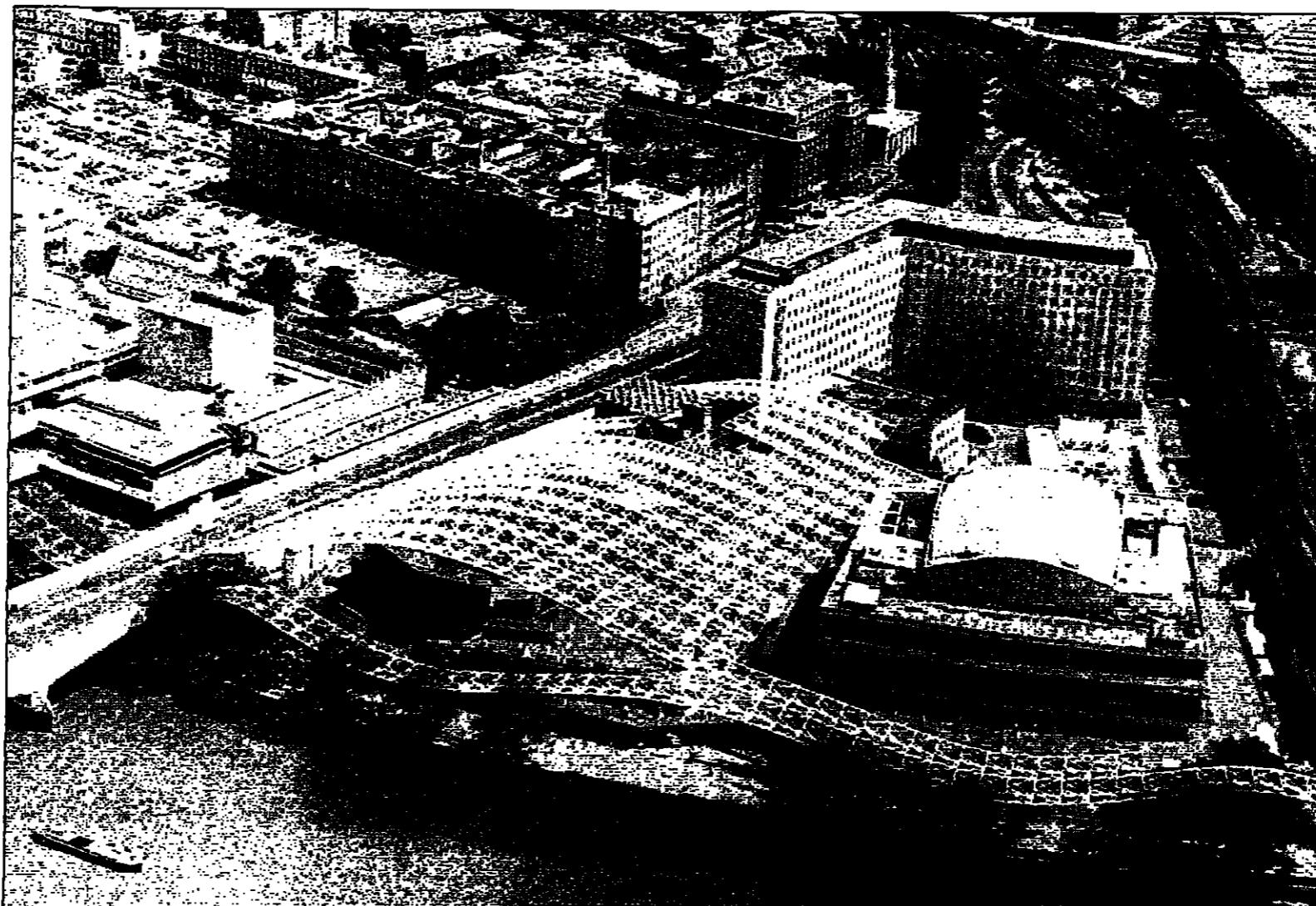
The most visible element of the scheme, Sir Richard Rogers's floating glass canopy over the Hayward Gallery and Queen Elizabeth Hall, the "Crystal Palace", comes in at £20 million, surprisingly good value given its size.

The latest technology allows it to be saddle-shaped and slightly asymmetrical, a worthy and beautiful heir to the great iron and glass train sheds of the 19th century.

By far the largest single item is the £35 million refurbishment of the Festival Hall by architects Allies & Morrison. They have already spent £3 million unpicking the worst muddling of the 1970s, with ravishing results.

The Festival Hall has always been acclaimed as one of the very best immediate post-war buildings in Europe, and the proposed refit is needed to bring it up to the top international technical standards demanded by conductors and orchestras. "The reverberation time is too short and needs lengthening," Kennedy says. "Players can't hear themselves or each other. We would also create a space above the stage for flying scenery, so opera and ballet can be much better accommodated."

What better advertisement could there be for music in Britain than for continental visitors to be sitting in one of the best concert halls in Europe within ten minutes of



A snip at £20 million? The floating glass canopy of Richard Rogers's "Crystal Palace" is only one of the proposals for the new-look South Bank

alighting from the Channel Tunnel train, without having to wait for a bus, Tube or taxi?

Next comes the least glamorous item, infrastructure, in the form of £20 million for improving services to buildings, access to the Museum of the Moving Image and the National Film Theatre, removal of many of the hated concrete walkways, new staircases, escalators, landscaping and signage (lovely word).

The Arts Council's £930,000 feasibility study, "shows that 95 per cent of people say the South Bank environment is appalling and puts them off coming," Kennedy says. "Our objective is to raise numbers, from 3.3 million to 5.3 million

users a year, making the whole centre more viable."

Finally, there is £6 million for "retail" shells (something you might think the retailers should provide for themselves), which will again provide increased revenue to support arts performances in the future. The South Bank is also working hard to raise its proportion of the finance and has set up the South Bank Foundation to raise funds, with the property developer Ellion Bernerd as chairman.

All these items add up to £122 million. The remaining £8 million is nothing more or less than a frightening provision for inflation. Actual building costs are not forecast to

rise more than 5 per cent a year, so the larger part of the inflation provision will go towards meeting what can be termed the "Eighties" factor. This is a firm belief on the part of everyone on the lottery roller-coaster that, as the millennium approaches, and more and more lottery projects compete with each other, building prices will go mad, as they did in the 1980s.

Here I pull the communication cord. The use of lottery money to fuel a new bout of boom-then-bust should be unthinkable. If construction companies know in advance that there are huge budget provisions for millennium fever, they will price accordingly.

The Government must tell the lottery distributors (and, if the Government does not, the media will) that only standard building cost inflation will be tolerated. If contractors put in tenders above this, projects should be cancelled or postponed. With major European building companies competing, it must be possible to get reasonable prices.

The second great question that needs to be asked about the whole South Bank project is just who is in charge. A scheme this size needs a leader of towering energy and determination — over and above the project director — to get it built on time and on budget. There is none in sight. Without

one the South Bank risks becoming a British Library-style fiasco with spiralling costs and endless delays.

Let us imagine that the great South Bank lottery bid fails.

The prospect of another decade or two of abortive arguments about how best to humanise this grim concrete wasteland is depressing in the extreme. But a more gradual approach might actually work better in the long term.

Give lottery grants to the

Festival Hall, and one or two other items, including Rogers's Crystal Palace, but progress more slowly on the rest. This way, there might be a better chance of getting it right.

From cradle to Graves

Jenny McClean joins the Sheffield parents learning what it means to be young at art

some children chose to go their own way.

Eleven-year-old Steven Sylvester's self-portrait expresses "my moving emotions: I was feeling angry at the time". Alex Goodall, nine, painted a rhythmic old sewing machine, while 14-year-old Sarah Davis carved a house out of a block of plaster, apparently still life until you spot the street scene etched on the front.

The after-effects of movement and the release of tension are vividly expressed in a large purple papier-mâché model by Dean Rowbotham, 11, entitled *Relaxation*. And someone will want to keep as a family heirloom nine-year-old Emily Waterhouse's two small sculptures of *My Cousin Alice* learning to crawl.

At three-and-a-half, Emma Greenlees was too young to exhibit, but that did not stop her copying some of the work, such as a moving butterfly sculpture, into her sketchbook.



David Sanderson adopts a lofty approach to the 1,100 works currently on show at Graves Gallery in Sheffield

Loyd Grossman tells Simon Tait why he has devised Museums Week

Recipe to draw the crowds



Grossman: our museums rank with the world's best

When the financial going gets tough, many a museum gets going, calling on a sympathetic celebrity to lend his or her name to an appeal, and their media-friendly face to a campaign. Susan Hampshire and Michael Palin can usually be relied on to come through with support, while the late Paul Eddington exasperated his agent by giving more time than he could really afford to helping out his local Bristol museums.

But Loyd Grossman is another matter. The television cook and genial gazer through the keyholes of other celebs is running a campaign for *all* of Britain's museums. Museums Week, devised and led by Grossman, began last year as a quirky Radio 2 event, but is launched again tomorrow with a flood of television and radio interviews. The week begins on Saturday — International Museums Day. The same day also sees the launch of *MAG*, a glossy magazine dedicated to museums and galleries, to which Grossman is contributing a restaurant review column.

He wants to impress on the Government the vital importance of museums to British culture, and on the uninitiated public the "usability" of museums now. "We are blessed with around 2,000 museums which are among the best in the world, and many of which are certainly the most eccentric in the world. So the quantity and quality of British museums has had a very powerful effect on the quality of life for the people who live here, and they have been an incredibly important magnet for attracting visitors from abroad."

When he was at the London School of Economics he nipped into the Sir John Soane's Museum most lunches, and these days he is as likely to find himself at the other museum Soane designed, the Dulwich Picture Gallery. "Part of the greatness of Dulwich is that the pictures are incomparably enhanced by the setting. That's why the whole place works. I'm often amused by Bill Gates's idea that you can have any picture on your wall you want through technology. Yeah, you can, but it ain't the same, is it?"

He reckons to "use" a museum two or three times a week. "There's always a museum on the way to where I'm going or where I've just come from, and sometimes I'll pop in to look at one thing, or just have a cup of coffee."

"I was shocked to think that so many museums were being threatened and no one other than museum professionals seemed to be interested or concerned about it," Grossman said. So he rang Greene.

table all the national museum organisations, not always close allies: the MGC, the Museums Association (the professional curatorial body), the Association of Independent Museums and the British Association of Friends of Museums. Together they created the Campaign for Museums, run by him, whose principal purpose is to establish this week as an annual rallying point.

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"We are blessed with around 2,000 museums which are among the best in the world, and many of which are certainly the most eccentric in the world. So the quantity and quality of British museums has had a very powerful effect on the quality of life for the people who live here, and they have been an incredibly important magnet for attracting visitors from abroad."

He doesn't play the economic card of suggesting that a museum plonked in a rundown town centre is going to revive the fortunes of a community. "There comes a time when you have to say we support museums because they're good for us. They are as good for society as the National Health Service, as education. I want to say that, instead of coming up with some incredibly mundane argument about spending."

What is irritating is the presence of National Lottery millions and their tantalising inaccessibility for what really needs doing. The Heritage Lottery Fund is announcing the completion of a clutch of lottery-funded museum projects in and around the week: the Catalyst chemical industry museum's new gallery in Widnes; the RNLI

lifeboat museum opening in Chatham; Gillingham Museum in Dorset where the volunteer curator has sold his local ironmongery so he can become full-time director; and the Manchester Museum of Science and Industry's new virtual reality exhibit.

But it is not enough. "We want the lottery to join us to help to pay for some of the core functions that are being eroded," Grossman says. "There's suddenly this idea that museum directors should behave like businessmen. I would love to see the museum community escape from the constant atmosphere of crisis management and concentrate on the things they have been trained to do, like the stewardship of important treasures, like educating people."

"What other institution has so much that appeals to so many different people? I hope that for the millennium the museums will make the idea of a learning society more of a reality. For Museums Week, I want to get across what one of the committee calls the Ladybird Book Message: Museums are Good."

STEPHEN DALTON

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Jennai Cox previews a three-part television series which clearly demonstrates why secretaries cannot be typecast

Secret world of secretaries

Miss Moneypenny aside, it is almost impossible to name a well-known secretary. For a job that has transformed the lives of thousands of women, the position has had a very low profile.

A three-part television series exploring the evolution of the secretary and her relationship with the boss hopes to change that. *I'll Just See If He's In*, starting next Tuesday, will shock, surprise, many and inform those whose idea of a secretary is simply an efficient typist.

Emma Willis, the main producer, who spent six months making the first two 40-minute programmes of the series, describes the story that emerges as a "double-edged sword" for women. "The job gives them huge opportunities, but is also a role which has proved very hard for some to get out of," she says. Ms Willis set out to make a series which did not shy away from that contradiction.

When the idea was put forward by two BBC secretaries last year, Ms Willis thought it would be a doddle. "Making the series was extremely demanding. I have never had to speak to so many

people in all my life," she says. "I felt a great responsibility because hardly anything has been done about this subject before. I wanted to do it justice and certainly did not want to offend anyone."

Finding archive material, used in particular for the second programme on the history of the secretary, was one of the most difficult aspects of the research. "It is such an obvious subject and I thought there would be loads of material," Ms Willis says. "We came across lots of documentary footage on miners and other pieces of social history, but nothing on secretaries. I'm sure if it had been a man's job there wouldn't have been a problem."

The world of secretaries remains a relatively difficult one to penetrate. Ms Willis discovered: "Dozens of high-profile PAs who lead extremely interesting lives were not prepared to come out into the limelight." Their work is their livelihood and they are used to being in the background. It was very hard to get people to talk," she says.

Three secretaries and their bosses eventually agreed to participate in the first programme on their relationships. Each pair are on

different working terms: the first treat each other as equals; the second boss employs a secretary to boss her around; and the third pair have a traditional relationship, with the secretary still addressing her boss as Mr Smith.

The first programme goes some way to explain why the male PA has never caught on and why secretaries could never be replaced by machines. Ms Willis says: "People talked to me about the march of technology asking: 'Whether the secretary? It is all rubbish because the essential relationship has not changed: it's still about human partnerships."

She was struck most by the wide range of people who become secretaries and how much the job varies. "We couldn't make any sort of generalisation as the job seems to have scope up almost every kind of woman," she says. "There is no equal type of work for men."

This was largely, she discovered while researching its history, because of the narrow range of options for women. The invention of the typewriter turned a once prestigious male-dominated job into one of machine operator and therefore one which was hard-

er over to women. By about 1920 the role had been dramatically transformed and companies were able to employ quality women at relatively low wages.

Being a secretary, however, meant something special to the older generation. "They used to train for three years, and they still have the words personal assistant because they think it is pretentious," Ms Willis says. "But now you hardly hear the word secre-

tary: it has lost its meaning." Although she accepts that the secretarial role is still regarded as a subordinate one, she thinks there is nothing wrong with its status. "It is the perception that is the problem," she says. "The fact that the job is so different from person to person and company to company is quite destructive; it is hard to make a profession of something that is so varied."

The third programme focus-



Blue-ribbon ladies: Joyce Sarling, Marion Aley-Parker and Audrey Martin — three secretaries who star in the BBC series *I'll Just See If He's In*

es on five women who wanted a profession and — unlike the men they replaced — had to break out of the secretarial mould to have one. Women, such as Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker of the House of Commons, who started as secretaries, had to fight for something with greater recognition.

Some have fond memories of their time as secretaries while others hated it; Sian Brady, who set up a computer cabling installation company, now refuses to employ any secretaries.

Ms Willis adds: "I wanted to bring them to the fore and say to people: 'Look this is interesting because this is how women are perceived at work and to a great extent, in society as well.' She thinks this is illustrated by the fact that it has taken women 150 years to bring the secretarial role back to where it started when done by men, as a job with status and prospects.

• *I'll Just See If He's In* begins on BBC2 on May 21 at 9.45pm.

Tel: 0171 680 6806

La Crème de la Crème

Fax: 0171 782 7586

DENTON HALL

Personnel Assistant

£20k + EXCELLENT BENEFITS - CHANCERY LANE

Denton Hall is a major London-based international law firm with over 200 lawyers at our Chancery Lane headquarters. We pride ourselves on a uniquely friendly and informal atmosphere.

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Commonsense, a mature approach, good audio and copy typing skills and a proven flair for admin are essential, whilst experience in a legal firm or similar partnership would be an added advantage. Diplomatic communication skills and a helpful telephone manner are also vital, as you will be dealing with people at all levels within the firm. Beyond this, familiarity with Windows based packages is a must, and experience of a personnel database would be useful.

In return, we offer excellent prospects and an attractive salary backed by exceptional benefits including free health insurance, sports club membership, luncheon vouchers and a contributory pension plan (profit-related pay).

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Nicki Farran
Personnel Officer
Denton Hall
5 Chancery Lane
Clifford's Inn
London EC4 1BU

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PA to Chief Executive

£25,000 package

Woking

This is a responsible position requiring a professional, efficient, commercially aware individual, used to operating at a senior level. Calm, well organised and discreet, you need to be flexible enough to meet the changing requirements of this exciting environment. Duties include controlling all aspects of the office, planning/prioritising of work and checking and verifying information. The ability to understand and evaluate basic financial information is key. You will be 25 plus, experienced in Word 5/7 and a graduate.

Current CV and handwritten letter of application by 22 May 1996 to T. Potter, Cray Systems, 5 Genesis Business Park, Albert Drive, Woking, Surrey GU21 5RW.

Cray

Systems

Chief Executive's Office

MAYOR'S SECRETARY

£18,372 - £19,497 p.a. inc.

This is a challenging and interesting opportunity working directly for the Mayor, the first citizen of the London Borough of Ealing. The Mayor has a high profile within the Borough and is the focus of many activities during the term of office. You will have a key role in organising these duties, so that they are carried out properly, and will need to have:

- excellent secretarial skills,
- written and oral communication skills,
- a high level of discretion and sensitivity.

In carrying out these duties, you will need to be able to:

- plan and organise your own work,
- develop an understanding of the work of the Mayor,
- write briefing notes and deal with correspondence,
- meet deadlines while working under pressure.

Ealing positively encourages people with disabilities to apply for posts. Application forms are obtainable from Ealing Recruitment Link, Ground floor, Pervic House, 14-16 Uxbridge Road, London W5 2HL. Telephone: 0181 840 1995 (24 hour answerphone). Please quote reference 449CE. Closing date: 30 May 1996. No CVs please.

Ealing
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Circle 33 Housing Trust provides low cost, high quality housing to over 10,000 households in the South East. As one of the largest developing housing associations, Circle 33 has a successful track record in urban regeneration and innovative housing projects. It has successfully implemented a programme of change, which ensures a learning culture for managers and its second to none.

PA to Housing Services Director

c.£18,000

This is a busy and pressurised role which encompasses all aspects of PA work including providing general assistance to the Housing Services Director by developing an overall knowledge of his activities, ensuring that all matters are dealt with appropriately, particularly in his absence.

You will be expected to respond to routine correspondence and enquiries and draft responses to more complex matters. In

Closing date: 24 May 1996.
For an application form and further information, please telephone the Recruitment Assistant on 0171 288 4102 quoting reference HM/COR/258. CVs will not be accepted. Circle 33 Housing Trust is located at 1-7 Corsica Street, London N5 1JG.

Circle Thirty Three Housing Trust Ltd
Circle 33 Housing Trust is an equal opportunities employer and we therefore welcome applications from all. We will not discriminate on grounds of race, sex, creed or sexual orientation and we particularly welcome applications from people with disabilities.

PA TO CHAIRMAN

c.£30,000

CENTRAL LONDON

An outstanding opportunity has arisen to work for the Chairman/CEO of a highly successful group of companies, providing information technology resourcing and consultancy solutions across Europe and the US.

To apply, you will have previous experience of working at Director level, ideally within a pan-European environment. You must be able to demonstrate exceptional organisational and communication skills as well as a flexible approach and attitude to your work. Your ideas and business acumen will be vital to the successful management of this demanding and diverse position. Excellent PC skills and shorthand are essential and knowledge of French would be a definite advantage.

Please send your CV to the advising consultant Carole Fletcher at Buckingham Personnel, Orchid Chambers, West Street, Marlow, Bucks, SL7 2NB. Tel: 01628 481212 Fax: 01628 478877.



PA to Deputy MD

£20,000 plus benefits

Quality, Flexibility and Fun!

An opportunity to join one of Europe's leading contract magazine publishers as PA to the Deputy Managing Director. He is responsible for running publishing operations in UK and Europe and needs someone to organise his diary, type his correspondence and take over all his administrative tasks. Someone who can communicate well with both clients and staff. If you have the experience and the skills, Mac literate, and are happy to be a hard-working team member in a friendly and informal environment, please send your CV to:

Christina Strupinska
TPD Publishing, Long Island House
1-4 Warple Way, London W3 0RG

TPD

SECRETARY TO THE GENERAL MANAGER AND HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL

COMPETITIVE SALARY+BANKING BENEFITS CITY OF LONDON

Midland Head Office International is responsible for developing Midland Bank's overseas operations in Europe and Latin America, where over 2500 staff are employed in 24 countries.

A vacancy has arisen for the Secretary to the General Manager and Head of International.

This dynamic role requires the provision of a full secretarial and support service with responsibility for ensuring the smooth running and workflow of the secretarial resource.

The successful candidate will be confident and assertive with a high level of initiative and organisational skills, plus the ability to produce accurate work, often to tight deadlines.

Proficiency in shorthand is essential, as is computer literacy in Word for Windows.

Previous experience in a similar senior secretarial role would be a distinct advantage.

This challenging opportunity to make a major contribution to the running of a busy office includes a benefits package commensurate with that of a leading international bank.

If you have the expertise and experience to contribute to our success, please forward your CV including current salary details to:

Milton Ives
Human Resources Manager International
Midland Bank plc
1st Floor, St Magnus House
3 Lower Thames Street
London EC3R 6HA



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£25,000 + Exc Bens. If you have fluent Spanish / French (SH/ useful) and a banking background this is a truly exciting opportunity for you!

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£20,000 + Exc Bens. Admin, sec and presentation support for an intelligent, creative person with a knowledge of languages.

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ECCO Employment
4 Moorfields, EC2
Fax: 0171 638 3567

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£20,000

The Senior Vice-President of Advertising and Publicity of this major film company needs a superb Shorthand PA. He or she must be fluent in Spanish and have an extensive professional, calm and flexible approach, to respond to his ever changing priorities. Senior level secretarial experience, shorthand of at least 110wpm and knowledge of Windows 95 are essential. Benefits include staff discounts, free tickets to film premieres and pre-screenings.

Please call, or fax CV's.
Tel: 0171 222 2338/Fax: 0171 222 3338. **Harriet Gabb Recruitment**

City Receptionist
to £15,500 & benefits

Highly successful investment company with fantastic office seeks a professional and immediately presented receptionist to create that all important first impression. Duties include meeting and greeting visitors, answering the busy switchboard, booking lunches and helping with overflow typing. Skills 30wpm, typing/basic WP experience. Hours 8.45am - 5.45pm. Please call Vanessa Mitchell on 0171-390 7000.

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Senior PA
12 month contract to £24,000 & bonus

International reinsurance company requires a self-motivated and highly organized PA to support the Chief Operating Officer on a contract beginning in July. Acting as his right hand assistant you will provide full secretarial and administrative support, liaise with senior management internationally and oversee the smooth running of the office. Senior level experience within a financial or blue-chip organisation is essential. Skills: 30/60, WP experience. Please call Vanessa Mitchell on 0171-390 7000.

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

A Superb Opportunity
£18,000 + benefits
Age 22-30

This is a great position for an enthusiastic secretary who would enjoy being a linkperson for a lively team. Working for a European Bank, you will be providing secretarial support to two Directors and in addition have a number of your own projects to co-ordinate including wine tasting evenings, rugby days and charity Go-Karting! You should be on the ball, enjoy using your own initiative and capable of liaising at senior level. Skills 50wpm typing and word for windows. Please call Amanda Chesser on 0171-390 7000.

Crone Corkill
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RECEPTIONISTS TAKE YOUR PICK
of bookings either on a long term on-going basis or shorter presented and have received immaculate presentation. For an immediate interview please call Rachael Beard at Tate Appointments on 0171 468 0424

PA/SECRETARY
Mayfair-based, newly formed property consultancy agency is seeking a highly organised, reliable and hard working PA to join the new office with efficiency and style. The person appointed will provide a full secretarial service to the team, who will also be first point of contact with clients, and will be responsible for the day to day running of the office. The position requires a high level of communication skills and development among a group of dynamic professionals. A high level of computer literacy is essential. Salary c £18,000 + £20,000 plus bonus. Please Reply to Box No 5971

JOBS WITH A DIFFERENCE... to £30,000

25K+ - OUTSTANDING PA/OFFICE MANAGER - to run this busy, dynamic international office. Scope for to involve responsibilities decision making. Must be bright, proactive, enjoy a challenge, and capable of taking on a demanding, busy role. Age 24-34.

17.5K - ONLY 30% SECRETARIAL - Property Management Co is looking for a diplomatic 'trouble-shooter' PA who is streetwise, persuasive and thrives on problem solving/juggling priorities. Age 20+ - 26.

16.5K - PUBLICITY PUBLIC AFFAIRS - Career move for bright PA with 60/80 to join this international organisation. Must enjoy using initiative and writing own press releases.

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KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

0171 235 8427

INVESTMENT BANKING

£16,000 to £22,000 + Package

Our client is searching for two flexible Team Secretaries to work in a lively demanding environment. You will need a strong, confident personality, excellent telephone manner, and first class communication skills. Minimum typing 65 wpm and in-depth knowledge powerpoint essential.

Please ring MITCHELL YOUNG ASSOCIATES 0171 588 3055 Rec. Cons.

AMBITIOUS PA

£19-21K + All bank fees (mtg, bonuses, ot, gym, etc.) A young, highly energetic, totally professional and well organised Secretary is urgently needed to assist the head of Investment Banking at a well known int. investment bank. Must be capable of taking lots of responsibility, have really confident communication skills and be a team player. There is definitely scope to develop this role. A high level of commitment, an intelligent approach and total professionalism essential. enquire Emily Aldrich

Tel: 0171 588 8999 Fax: 0171 588 8996 Aldrich & Co Ltd RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CORPORATE FINANCE SECRETARY TO MD £30,000 Package

Senior required for busy executive. In this challenging role you will need 60 wpm typing/MS Office experience and proven secretarial qualifications. You will also have excellent communication skills, commitment, energy, enthusiasm. Banking/Professional experience essential.

Call Mitchell Young Associates Rec. Cons. 0171 588 3055.

Perfection Reception PR

This prestigious PR firm in SW1 is looking for a young, bright all-rounder to assist and great clients, answer the phone and deal with clients on a client's behalf. You will be offered a start in a creative environment and have basic typing (40wpm) call as now. Salary negotiable.

JOYCE GRIFFITHS PARTNERSHIP 0171 588 8867 RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PA TO MD

West End based property company active in the UK and Europe. The Managing Director is seeking a high calibre personal assistant for a varied and challenging role, dealing with private as well as business matters.

Excellent secretarial skills, good telephone manner, and willingness to work long hours are essential. The successful candidate will remain calm under pressure and have the experience to handle a wide range of issues at a senior level.

Salary in the region of £20,000 per + subject to qualifications and experience.

Please reply to Sandy Watson, 63 Chester Square, London SW1W 9EA Tel: 0171 730 7730, or fax CV on 0171 396 0106.

FOUR WEEKS TO
THE TIMES Crème 96

Conference and meeting organisation, as well as sourcing venues, is integral part to the role of many secretaries and PAs. Over 60 different hotels, conference venues, venue finders, conference organisers and trainers will be present at Crème '96 with information on their facilities and advice to aid you with all your requirements.

THE TIMES Crème 96

Prestigious hotels exhibiting at the show from all over the UK and Europe, include Cyprus Premier Hotels, Castle Ashby, Grand Heritage Hotels, Hilton International Group, Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza London Heathrow, International Hotels, Radisson Edwardian Hotels and the Independent Hotel Consortium.

Specialists in booking accommodation and finding hotels include Hotel Desk and Expotel Hotel Reservations.

THE TIMES Crème 96

Bath Conference Bureau, Cambridge Tourist Information, International Convention Centre in Birmingham, Commonwealth Conference and Event Centre in London, Conference Nottingham, Leicestershire Conference Bureau and Portsmouth Conference Office are just some of the conference centres which will have details of their facilities.

Organisations such as BACT - British Association of Conference Towns, The Venue Resource Group and The Venue Directory, will also provide material on the services they offer.

THE TIMES Crème 96

To find out more about the above companies and many more, visit Crème '96 from 12-14th June, at London's Olympia 2. Entrance is free-of-charge. For full conference, seminar and pre-registration details, call 01923 244555. Read next week's Crème de la Crème to discover some of the office product suppliers and business technology specialists exhibiting at the show.

CREME DE LA CREME

RICH PICKINGS

Is finding a rewarding, well paid temp job, like finding a needle in a haystack? Do you want to earn up to £10 per hour and take your pick from a crop of temp assignments ranging from International Investment banks to corporate PR agencies. If you have 55wpm and solid experience using two or more current word processing packages, then please call

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*Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer.
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PA/SECRETARY

Up to £32K

An internationally renowned Entrepreneur with an innovative approach to Property Development, has an exciting opportunity for a computer literate, mature Senior Secretary. This West End based position requires a bright, highly competent, experienced and intelligent PA/Secretary to manage the day to day running of a busy office. The successful applicant will have held a Chairman level position and will have experience in Property Development and/or Legal environment. Moreover, you must have stamina, common sense and motivation to work for this prestigious business person. Advanced word processing ability required. Skills: 80wpm typing and W&W. Please call

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£25K

The Chief Executive of a leading communications consultancy is looking for an outstanding PA to work with him during a period of extensive international growth. As he is usually travelling, this is a job for a PA used to working on her own initiative who can draft and sign off correspondence, represent him to clients and research and attend meetings. You will be working on potential acquisitions, developing overseas affiliates and subsidiaries as well as marketing new clients and devising future strategies for existing ones. Strong interpersonal skills are essential, languages - especially German and French and willingness to travel within the UK would be very useful. Skills: 80wpm typing and W&W. Please call:

Angela Mortimer

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TRADING FLOOR

£22K plus banking benefits

Our client, a large European Investment bank, is looking for a dynamic secretary who will rise to the challenge of working on a busy trading floor. With at least 18 months experience, preferably in a financial environment, you will not be phased by the pace and volume of work that you will encounter. You will provide comprehensive administrative support to a sales desk and act as a PA to two directors. Resilience, humour and initiative combined with expert secretarial and IT skills will ensure your success in this position. An immediate start would be welcomed. Please call:

Angela Mortimer

0171 814 0800

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An exciting opportunity exists within an International Trading Company. Working with a team of highly motivated, dynamic people you should enjoy a fast moving, busy environment and be flexible and outgoing. The position requires a knowledge of Charter Parties or some shipping experience as well as good administrative and organisational skills. If you are proficient in Word, Perfect for Windows and have good secretarial skills please call

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SALARY + BENS + COMMISSION + CAR
Due to the enormous success of our growing secretarial division, an opening has arisen for a Recruitment Consultant with a minimum of eighteen months relevant experience. This position will compliment an established team based in our prestigious City Office. The ideal candidate will be aged 24-30, assertive, professional and dynamic.

Please contact Lindsey Morgan.

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Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 626 1242

JOANNAH WREN & CO LTD.
RECRUITMENT
secretaries

PERSONNEL PA

To £24,000 + MS + BENS
A polished PA with either a personnel or banking background is urgently sought by this prestigious Investment Bank. The position will incorporate extensive telephone liaison, diary management and admin duties. The ideal candidate will be aged 25-33 with a solid work history and 100 wpm shorthand.

Please contact Melinda Marks.

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Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 626 1242

JOANNAH WREN & CO LTD.
RECRUITMENT
secretaries

WEST END PA/
SECRETARIES X 5

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One of London's leading Investment Banks has several exciting openings for professional well educated secretaries (minimum 5 GCSE's). The positions range from Junior Secretarial roles through to senior Director level opportunities in Legal, Research and Investment Banking.

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To £18,000 + MS + BENS
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secretaries

CORPORATE FINANCE PA

To £25,000 PACKAGE
A leading Investment Bank has an immediate opening for a PA/Secretary with a banking background to work for two senior Directors. The position will incorporate extensive administrative responsibilities of diary management and travel co-ordination. The ideal candidate will be aged 23-33 with a solid work history.

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Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 626 1242

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SECRETARY/PA
in 2 Directors

Outplacement Consultants,
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Vi-Jobs

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SECRETARY
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Audio secretary to work for
two friendly partners. Good
telephone manner essential.
Wordperfect 5.1 salary
£15,000 per annum.
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SECRETARY/
RECEPTIONIST

A competent and presentable
person required for busy
professional office adjacent to
'Hermes' Salary negotiable.

Apply with CV to Andrew Bishop
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EXPANDING
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SALARY £25K
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(24 HRS)

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Assist your dynamic client teams with highly successful US Co. Assist on presentations, layout, etc. client contact. Good org. & admin. skills. 22-30 yrs. full time. 22-30 yrs. part time. VAL WADE REC CONS 0171 437 5793

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Exceptional Salary

Successful & rapidly expanding International company is seeking an outstanding PA with solid experience gained at the highest level ideally in a small company environment. Probably in your early 30's with a degree and a good business mind, you will use your diplomacy, organisational and motivational skills to act as an executive assistant to the MD who will involve you in every aspect of his work. If you are numerate, confident and are looking for your own projects and responsibility this is the challenge you are waiting for. Sound knowledge of Microsoft Office essential.

Please call Sharon on 0171 437 6032
6032 for more details.

RECRUITMENT

Consider Yourself
a 'Top Temp'?

We are one of London's leading temping agencies and we have a varied client base which requires professional and flexible 'top' secretaries and receptionists. If you have 55wpm, audio or shorthand and know one or more of the following systems we would love to hear from you:

Word for Windows/Wordperfect for Word, Word Pro/Word on Apple/Mac
Powerpoint/Freelance
Lotus/Excel
Switchboards

We pay up to £10 per hour.

For an appointment call:
WESTEND: Liz, Holly, Gillian,
0171 437 6032
CITY: Joyce, Liza, Victoria, Kim
0171 277 5919
AND CONSIDER YOURSELF A
HOBSTONES TEMP!

RECRUITMENT

HOBSTONES

PA in Training/Media
to £18,500 + bens

If you're looking for your first one to one role at Director level in a fun and friendly environment look no further! One of London's top Publishing and Training companies require a PA for a Group Director. You will be collecting presentations, liaison with senior people and holding the fort in his absence. You'll need to be intelligent with a professional and discreet manner. Word for Windows and 55wpm typing are a must. Call Caroline Galan in the West End.

PA to Managing Director
£20,000

This successful worldwide shipping company seeks an experienced and enthusiastic PA, capable of handling correspondence, arranging extensive travel itineraries, diary management and acting as a company ambassador. Experience within the shipping industry would be beneficial but it is not essential. With a minimum of 2 years experience at senior PA level, plus shorthand 90wpm min and typing 65wpm, this role will utilise your energy and organisational skills offering you the ability to become an integral part of the company. Call Sharon Hawkins in the West End.

West End: 0171 437 6032
Victory House, 99-101 Regent Street, London W1R 2PS

RECRUITMENT

INTERNATIONAL
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CONSULTANTS
SECRETARY

The head of the International Department is looking for a professional, experienced and organised secretary to work in his busy West End office. Proficient at Word, 60 wpm and copy typing, general admin skills and a good sense of humour. Contact: Caroline Wallford, 0171 437 6777.

RECRUITMENT

VICTORIA WALL ASSOCIATES

BENEFITS GALORE!

Our client is a prestigious, progressive, has a flat hierarchy and would like to invest in you. Paid overtime, PRP, STL, gym, health, pension, life assurance... the list is endless! They are looking for a young, proactive, switched on Secretary to work for two delightful Associate Partners and their team. You will arrange travel, prepare presentations and liaise extensively with clients and colleagues as you get fully involved in their work. Powerpoint prof, good W&W and 55wpm.

c£20k package

INVEST YOURSELF!
Working for two charming Directors, this is an opportunity for a Secretary with shorthand to get truly involved in this fascinating area of banking, which deals with every type of company, from food to fashion to finance. Working as part of this friendly team, you will be responsible for managing their diaries, organising and preparing presentations, travel and meetings, dealing with correspondence and liaising in confidence with their clients on specific projects.

£20,000 + Bens

CITY SLICKER

An international environment, plenty of variety and lots of contact overseas is what this job has to offer... This prestigious Equity Research Department needs a first class Assistant with excellent secretarial skills to assist the analysts with their admin and secretarial requirements using Word for Windows, graphics and spreadsheets. If you are a proactive individual with strong organisational skills and a real eye for detail, please call us to find out more.

£18-20k + Bkg Bens (c£25k Pkg)

0171 225 1888

Judy Farquharson Ltd.

PA/OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR TO DIRECTOR

To assist in the smooth running of central London prominent food business, working for highly regarded artistic director. Organisational ability, ability to prioritise, good telephone manner. Good computer skills, Word, 60 wpm, 55wpm, WordPerfect, Lotus, Excel, Word for Windows.

Skills required: shorthand, 60 wpm, 55wpm and audio essential, stenotype.

Excellent opportunity for a self-motivated all-rounder to assist in the smooth running of central London prominent food business, working for highly regarded artistic director. Organisational ability, ability to prioritise, good telephone manner. Good computer skills, Word, 60 wpm, 55wpm, WordPerfect, Lotus, Excel, Word for Windows.

Skills required: shorthand, 60 wpm, 55wpm and audio essential, stenotype.

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Skills required: shorthand, 60 wpm, 55wpm and audio essential, stenotype.

Excellent opportunity for a self-motivated all-rounder to assist in the smooth running of central London prominent food business, working for highly regarded artistic director. Organisational ability, ability to prioritise, good telephone manner. Good computer skills, Word, 60 wpm, 55wpm, WordPerfect, Lotus, Excel, Word for Windows.

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Century by Morris sees Glamorgan home

BY PAT GIBSON

CANTERBURY (Kent won toss): Glamorgan (2pts) beat Kent by eight wickets

HUGH MORRIS, the former England opening batsman, played what Matthew Maynard, his captain, described as the best innings that he had ever seen to send Glamorgan racing into the last eight of the Benson and Hedges Cup yesterday. Not only that, he also guaranteed them a home game at Cardiff.

Glamorgan had worked out that, to make sure of qualifying, they had to overhaul Kent's total of 208 for nine in 38.4 overs and Morris made it a formality by scoring 136 not out, including 21 fours and a six, as they reached 210 for two in the 33rd over.

The irony of it was that Morris, now 32 and virtually ignored by the England selectors since winning three caps, two of them against West Indies, in 1991, had handed over the captaincy to the more adventurous Maynard this season because he was tired of leading a team that had achieved nothing since winning the Sunday league in 1993.

Now he has led them into the cup quarter-finals for the first time since 1990 and Maynard could not have been more grateful.

"Before we went out to bat," he said, "we phoned the office to find out exactly what we had to do to make sure of qualifying with a better run-rate than Kent and then had an open discussion to decide whether we should go for it or just try to win the game and hope that the Somerset-Essex match worked out in our favour.

"We came to the conclusion that there was no point in winning the game and not qualifying, but nobody could have imagined a knock like Hugh's. It was the best I've ever seen, full of quality shots. It was just awesome."

Indeed it was. Glamorgan had as good as won the match

in the first nine overs when Steve Watkin, another of England's forgotten Welshmen, was taking advantage of the early moisture in the pitch to remove Kent's first four batsmen in the space of 21 deliveries at a personal cost of five runs.

The conditions eased later to allow Carl Hooper to fashion some sort of Kent recovery with a high-class 62 before he threw his wicket away in that infuriating way he has by holing out to long-on when it was obvious to everyone but him that his first priority was to bat through the innings.

Even so, it was still asking a lot of Morris and Steve James, his opening partner, to go for their shots from the outset of the innings, but that is precisely what they did. James made 60 off only 70 balls, hitting nine fours, yet he looked almost pedestrian alongside the magnificent Morris.

He sped past his fifty off 38 balls with four successive fours off Fleming, and then he hit three deliveries from McCague for four, six and four, before completing his third century in all competitions this season.

The century had been scored in 84 minutes off 68 balls and included a six and 17 fours.

By the time that James was caught at square leg off Ealham in the 26th over, they had put on 181, beating Glamorgan's record opening partnership in the competition – an unbroken 176 by Alan Jones and John Hopkins against Minor Counties at Swanscombe in 1980.

They were able to cruise in after that. Dale, a centurymaker the day before, was out third ball, but Morris and Maynard knocked off the remaining 25 runs inside six overs.

Capel had been thrust up the order, made 82, then Harley, at long-off, held the third chance the batsman offered. Bailey, the new captain, finished with 75 not out and took his third gold award in the group matches. He also held a brilliant run-out to dismiss White.



John Morris, of Durham, striking out on his way to 145 against Leicestershire

Yorkshire miss their chances

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

NORTHAMPTON (Yorkshire won toss): Northamptonshire (2pts) beat Yorkshire by seven wickets

BY VIRTUE of this victory, which was achieved with 4.5 overs to spare, Northamptonshire secured a home tie in the Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-finals, to be drawn this morning. Capel and Bailey did them proud with a stand of 148 for the second wicket after Yorkshire had yielded runs grudgingly in the opening overs of the innings.

Capel, who has been thrust up the order, made 82, then Harley, at long-off, held the third chance the batsman offered. Bailey, the new captain, finished with 75 not out and took his third gold award in the group matches. He also held a brilliant run-out to dismiss White.

To win, Northamptonshire had only to bat sensibly, which they did. Silverwood commanded respect and White achieved success when

Montgomery, shuffling in front of his stumps, was leg-before. Bailey, however, was in a serious mood and Capel, despite a hand injury of some sort, although he returned in the final over of the innings and hit a resounding boundary through extra cover to prove that, however bruised his thumb is, it will not keep him from the crease.

After the early loss of Byas, and Moxon's misfortune, Yorkshire, previously unbeaten in the competition, never gave themselves a chance of setting Northamptonshire a stiff target. Bevan along got the third ball more fully on to his bat. When Silverwood returned at the old football stand end, he was seeing it pretty well and gave it a good crack.

He was reprieved at mid-off

on 23 when Stemp, sensing that he had made the catch before the ball was properly in his grasp, dropped it dismally, and again on 81, when Vaughan grinded a skier.

Silverwood, the bowler, was

entitled to be grumpy about such carelessness. Had the first chance been accepted, Northamptonshire would have been 55 for two and the door half-open. Capel and Bailey shut it firmly.



Diagram of final position

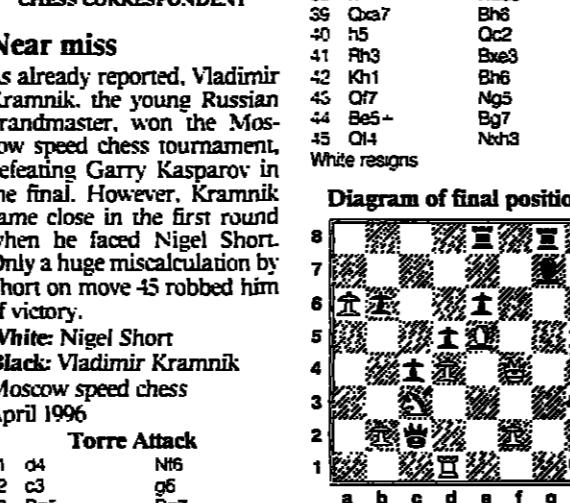


Diagram of final position

Short had overlooked, in the final position, that 46. Qh6 is not mate since the black queen can slide back to h7. If Short had played 45. Bxg7+ instead of blundering, then 45. Kh7; 46. Qf6 Rg7; 47. Rg3 Rg8; 48. f7 leads to a win.

Chess Olympiad

Details have been announced about the organisation of the 32nd World Chess Olympiad in Erevan, Armenia, later this year. This biennial competition is essentially the world championship for national teams. It will run from September 15 to October 2 while the Fide (World Chess Federation) congress, when elections should be held for the post of president, runs from September 24 to October 2.

□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Kajsa-Nilsson, Finland, 1957. Here, the powerful position of the White rook on the seventh rank gave White the chance for a wonderful combination. Can you see what he played?



Solution on page 50

BENSON AND HEDGES CUP SCORECARD

British Universities v Middlessex

FENNERS (Middlesex won toss): Middlessex (2pts) beat British Universities by five wickets

BRITISH UNIVERSITIES

C M Guptha bowled by Fraser
G A Khan b Follett
A S Dutt not out
R O Cole run out
W J House c Fay b Ramprakash
M Wagh c Gurney b Ramprakash
U S Chakraborty c Gurney b Ramprakash
K Marc c Gurney b Waines
M R Evans not out
S A Boulton c Brown b Tunstall
E Evans to 3, 5 to 12
Extras (5 w, 3 nb, 2)

Total (49.5 overs) 184

Score at 15 overs 51-2

FALL OF WICKETS: 5-14, 6-14, 7-14, 8-16, 9-18, 10-20, 11-22, 12-23, 13-24, 14-25, 15-26, 16-27, 17-28, 18-29, 19-30, 20-31, 21-32, 22-33, 23-34, 24-35, 25-36, 26-37, 27-38, 28-39, 29-40, 30-41, 31-42, 32-43, 33-44, 34-45, 35-46, 36-47, 37-48, 38-49, 39-50, 40-51, 41-52, 42-53, 43-54, 44-55, 45-56, 46-57, 47-58, 48-59, 49-60, 50-61, 51-62, 52-63, 53-64, 54-65, 55-66, 56-67, 57-68, 58-69, 59-70, 60-71, 61-72, 62-73, 63-74, 64-75, 65-76, 66-77, 67-78, 68-79, 69-80, 70-81, 71-82, 72-83, 73-84, 74-85, 75-86, 76-87, 77-88, 78-89, 79-90, 80-91, 81-92, 82-93, 83-94, 84-95, 85-96, 86-97, 87-98, 88-99, 89-100, 90-101, 91-102, 92-103, 93-104, 94-105, 95-106, 96-107, 97-108, 98-109, 99-110, 100-111, 101-112, 102-113, 103-114, 104-115, 105-116, 106-117, 107-118, 108-119, 109-120, 110-121, 111-122, 112-123, 113-124, 114-125, 115-126, 116-127, 117-128, 118-129, 119-130, 120-131, 121-132, 122-133, 123-134, 124-135, 125-136, 126-137, 127-138, 128-139, 129-140, 130-141, 131-142, 132-143, 133-144, 134-145, 135-146, 136-147, 137-148, 138-149, 139-150, 140-151, 141-152, 142-153, 143-154, 144-155, 145-156, 146-157, 147-158, 148-159, 149-160, 150-161, 151-162, 152-163, 153-164, 154-165, 155-166, 156-167, 157-168, 158-169, 159-170, 160-171, 161-172, 162-173, 163-174, 164-175, 165-176, 166-177, 167-178, 168-179, 169-180, 170-181, 171-182, 172-183, 173-184, 174-185, 175-186, 176-187, 177-188, 178-189, 179-190, 180-191, 181-192, 182-193, 183-194, 184-195, 185-196, 186-197, 187-198, 188-199, 189-200, 190-201, 191-202, 192-203, 193-204, 194-205, 195-206, 196-207, 197-208, 198-209, 199-210, 200-211, 201-212, 202-213, 203-214, 204-215, 205-216, 206-217, 207-218, 208-219, 209-220, 210-221, 211-222, 212-223, 213-224, 214-225, 215-226, 216-227, 217-228, 218-229, 219-230, 220-231, 221-232, 222-233, 223-234, 224-235, 225-236, 226-237, 227-238, 228-239, 229-240, 230-241, 231-242, 232-243, 233-244, 234-245, 235-246, 236-247, 237-248, 238-249, 239-250, 240-251, 241-252, 242-253, 243-254, 244-255, 245-256, 246-257, 247-258, 248-259, 249-260, 250-261, 251-262, 252-263, 253-264, 254-265, 255-266, 256-267, 257-268, 258-269, 259-270, 260-271, 261-272, 262-273, 263-274, 264-275, 265-276, 266-277, 267-278, 268-279, 269-280, 270-281, 271-282, 272-283, 273-284, 274-285, 275-286, 276-287, 277-288, 278-289, 279-290, 280-291, 281-292, 282-293, 283-294, 284-295, 285-296, 286-297, 287-298, 288-299, 289-300, 290-301, 291-302, 292-303, 293-304, 294-305, 295-306, 296-307, 297-308, 298-309, 299-310, 300-311, 301-312, 302-313, 303-314, 304-315, 305-316, 306-317, 307-318, 308-319, 309-320, 310-321, 311-322, 312-323, 313-324, 314-325, 315-326, 316-327, 317-328, 318-329, 319-330, 320-331, 321-332, 322-333, 323-334, 324-335, 325-336, 326-337, 327-338, 328-339, 329-340, 330-341, 331-342, 332-343, 333-344, 334-345, 335-346, 336-347, 337-348, 338-349, 339-350, 340-351, 341-352, 342-353, 343-354, 344-355, 345-356, 346-357, 347-358, 348-359, 349-360, 350-361, 351-362, 352-363, 353-364, 354-365, 355-366, 356-367, 357-368, 358-369, 359-370, 360-371, 361-372, 362-373, 363-374, 364-375, 365-376, 366-377, 367-378, 368-379, 369-380, 370-381, 371-382, 372-383, 373-384, 374-385, 375-386, 376-387, 377-388, 378-389, 379-390, 380-391, 381-392, 382-393, 383-394, 384-395, 385-396, 386-397, 387-398, 388-399, 389-400, 390-401, 391-402, 392-403, 393-404, 394-405, 395-406, 396-407, 397-408, 398-409, 399-410, 400-411, 401-412, 402-413, 403-414, 404-415, 405-416, 406-417, 407-418, 408-419, 409-420, 410-421, 411-422, 412-423, 413-424, 414-425, 415-426, 416-427, 417-428, 418-429, 419-430, 420-431, 421-432, 422-433, 423-434, 424-435, 425-436, 426-437, 427-438, 428-439, 429-440, 430-441, 431-442, 432-443, 433-444, 434-445, 435-446, 436-447, 437-448, 438-449, 439-450, 440-451, 441-452, 442-453, 443-454, 444-455, 445-456, 446-457, 447-458, 448-459, 449-460, 450-461, 451-462, 452-463, 453-464, 454-465, 455-466, 456-467, 457-468, 458-469, 459-470, 460-471, 461-472, 462-473, 463-474, 464-475, 465-476, 466-477, 467-478, 468-479, 469-480, 470-481, 471-482, 472-483, 473-484, 474-485, 475-486, 476-487, 477-488, 478-489, 479-490, 480-491, 481-492, 482-493, 483-494, 484-495, 485-496, 486-497, 487-498, 488-499, 489-500, 490-501, 491-502, 492-503, 493-504, 494-505, 4

Graf casts doubts aside after defeat by Hingis

FROM ALIX RAMSAY
IN BERLIN

STEFFI GRAF managed to erase the unhappy memories of the Italian Open tennis tournament yesterday with a straightforward win over Tamira Whitlinger Jones, of the United States, in the second round of the German Open. It took a mere 49 minutes to polish off Whitlinger Jones, 6-1, 6-2, but, more important for Graf, it proved that she is back on track as she prepares for the French Open.

Graf's defeat by Martina Hingis, 15, last week in the quarter-finals in Rome unsettled her. "I have never played so badly and I don't know why," she said. "Today I was more patient, there were not as many errors."

Graf is not known for her patience on or off court and, while she can adapt the technical side of her game to any surface, her mental approach can be a problem and her boredom threshold with the slow, red clay remains low.

Hingis, the No 9 seed, also had an easy ride into the next round, cruising past Jolene Watanabe, 6-3, 6-0, but, for Iva Majoli, the No 3 seed, yesterday proved harder work as she dropped a set against Asa Carlson, from Sweden.

Thomas Muster, defending his Italian Open title, raced into the second round yesterday, defeating Hubert Wiltschig, his Austrian compatriot, 6-3, 6-3.

Muster, who has claimed that the circuit is geared towards Americans, later criticised some who are not competing in Rome. Among them are Pete Sampras, Andre Agassi and Michael Chang, the three United States players who, along with Muster, comprise the world's top four.

"I guess some guys don't like to play in Europe," he said. "Nobody respects the European clay-court tournaments any more."

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Goulding wins battle of scrum halves

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

BOBBIE GOULDING won the latest skirmish in his private battle with Shaun Edwards for the England rugby league scrum half jersey yesterday, retaining his World Cup final place of seven months ago for the visit of France in the European championship, much at Gateshead on June 12.

The players' form this season was the decisive factor. Although Phil Lander, the England coach, said that Edwards, 29, was very much in contention for Great Britain's tour of Papua New Guinea, Fiji and New Zealand in the autumn, his younger St Helens rival is clearly now the first choice.

They are both outstanding players and it was a straight choice between them, Lander said. "I've been very impressed with Shaun, but Bobbie has just shaded him and is there on merit."

Edwards' response was succinct. "I'd be a lot more disturbed if it was a Great Britain team," he said.

At 24, Goulding is at the top of his game. It would be no surprise if the captaincy also passed to him from Edwards. However, a potential embarrassment is an offer that Goulding is reportedly considering to move to the Australian Rugby League (ARL), with whom the British game is at loggerheads.

If Goulding joined the ARL, he could find himself compromised in the same way that Connolly and Jason Robinson, of Wigan, have been in having to agree to play solely under the ARL banner in future, for substantial loyalty payments. Both are

included in Lander's 21-strong squad, in defiance of threats from the ARL to prevent them from playing. Because of the ARL's legal taunts, Lander has included the reformed Matt Calland, of Bradford, and Scott Taylor, of Salford, one of only three non-Super League players in the party, as extra insurance in the backs.

Danny Arnold, the St Helens wing, one of eight players who did not figure in the World Cup last year, is the least surprising inclusion. Arnold, 19, has emerged as a prodigious finisher in his first

ENGLAND SQUAD

BACKS: D Arnold (St Helens), M Calland (Bradford Bulls), G Connolly (Wigan), B Goulding (St Helens), S Taylor (Salford), P Redfern (Salford), M O'Brien (Wigan), D Pownall (Salford), J Robinson (Wigan), T Smith (Castledare Tigers). FORWARD: P Bradford (Salford), E Formby (Wigan), M Cudmore (Wigan), A Farrell (Wigan), K Harrison (Hull KR Star), C Joynt (St Helens), J Lawless (Sheffield), D Lander (England), M Lomax (Salford), S McManamy (Bradford Bulls), P Rowley (Hull KR Star), P Southgate (Warrington).

full season. He has scored 11 tries in seven Super League games.

Paul Sculthorpe, 18, a loose forward of rich promise at Warrington, is also included for the first time. With Lee Jackson's departure to Australia, two promising youngsters — Paul Rowley, of Halifax, and John Lawless, Jackson's successor at Sheffield — will dispute the hooker's role.

Wigan, as usual, have the largest contingent, with six players, followed by four from St Helens.

"I already know my team," Lander said. "I've then looked out of trouble."

Goulding's impressive form has made him England's first choice against France

at substitutes and gone for impact players, and then for players who have not been in the frame before with the Great Britain tour in mind."

Wigan returned to playing rugby league opposition last night at Halifax. Maurice Lindsay, the chief executive of the Rugby Football League, denied that the rapprochement between the two rugby codes inevitably meant the creation of a hybrid game.

Lindsay said: "We are carrying on with our plans to expand the Super League into Europe, to be ambitious and capitalise on what we are doing, which is very encouraging at the moment. We're a long way from talking about any fusion of the codes, or realignment of the rules. We're perfectly happy with what we've got."

Despite the impact of Wigan's defeat of Bath in the first of the cross-code matches and the professional club's success in the Middlesex Sevens, Lindsay is not confident that Wigan will win the return game with Bath, under union laws, at Twickenham on Saturday week.

Wigan struggled in the Middlesex Sevens when the ball was on the floor, by naivety as much as anything," he said. "I personally think it will be a very unattractive game, penalty-strewn, although fascinating at the same time."

Joe Lydon, Wigan's football executive, will come out of retirement after a year, at 32 years of age, to play against Bath, probably at stand-off half, in order to kick Wigan out of trouble.



Impressive form has made Goulding, centre, England's first choice against France

Melville provides new direction for Wasps

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

NIGEL MELVILLE, the former England scrum half and captain, was named yesterday as the new director of rugby at Wasps, one of his former clubs (David Hands writes). Melville, 35, who was forced by injury to retire from international rugby in 1988, has been recruited by Ortey's rugby affairs.

He will join Roger Utley, who is to be chairman of the playing committee as Wasps continue a restructuring exercise before their flotation on the Alternative Investment Market. Their plans will be laid before a special general meeting on May 28, when they hope to introduce their new chief executive.

Andy Gomarsall, one of Wasps' brightest young lights, has been invited to go with the Barbarians on their two-match visit to Japan next month. He will be part of a 19-strong squad that includes six players from Bath, headed by Jeremy Guscott and Ben Clarke. The Barbarians, who play an Ireland XV in Dublin on Saturday, will play matches against Kobe Steel on June 2 and an invitation XV on June 5.

Barbarians SQUAD: M. Hall (Cardiff and Wigan), J. Utley (Cardiff and Wigan), R. Utley (Cardiff and Wigan), P. Arnold (Cardiff and Wigan), A. Healey (Cardiff), A. Guscott (Cardiff and Wigan), J. Gomarsall (Cardiff and England), P. Gomarsall (Cardiff and Wigan), B. Clarke (Cardiff and Ireland), J. Guscott (Cardiff and Ireland), A. Gomarsall (Cardiff and England), A. Robinson (Cardiff and England), J. Gardner (Cardiff and Italy), B. Clarke (Cardiff and England), L. Cade (Cardiff and France).

they have been scarce. The

travelling involved in the competition has taken its toll, though it did not prevent Auckland from winning in Durban last weekend, nor Queensland overcoming Transvaal in Johannesburg. In the process, however, Queensland lost Jason Little, their prince of centres, with a broken collar-bone and broken nose, which will keep him out for six weeks.

However, others have arisen

to take the attention of a

public which has responded well to the new competition.

Elijah Flatley, barely out of

school, has received rave re-

views for his play at stand-off

half for Queensland, and

they have been scarce. The

travelling involved in the

competition has taken its toll,

though it did not prevent

Auckland from winning in

Durban last weekend, nor

Queensland from losing in

Johannesburg. The two new-

comers are just 19.

Last year Flatley was play-

ing for Nugee College, that

noted Brisbane nursery, his

third year in their first XV; he

has yet to play for the first-

team of Brothers, his club,

because his nine senior

games have all been for

Queensland.

A capacity crowd of 28,000

is expected at Ballymore for

the visit of Natal. Tim Horan,

who has been playing full-

back, will revert to his interna-

tional position of centre for

Queensland and Tyrone

Mandrusiak will come in at

No 15. Shortly, the Australia

selectors must decide their

new team and their new

captain — a role for which

Horan and John Eales, his

colleague, are strong contend-

ers.

Andrew Slack, the Queens-

land assistant coach, said:

"Eighty to 90 per cent of the

games have been very enter-

taining. The bonus points

system has helped (one extra

for four or more tries), but it

has been the state of mind

with which teams have gone

out, the desire to entertain

and the new rules — notably

the back rows staying down at

the scrums — which have created

more space."

Auckland, too, have thrown

up talented newcomers: a

back-row forward whose style

much resembles that of Michael

Jones, and Joeli Vidiari, who

has achieved the apparently-

impossible task of filling in on

the wing for Jonah Lomu.

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captain — a role for which

Horan and John Eales, his

colleague, are strong contend-

Kluivert free to lead Euro challenge

AN AMSTERDAM court yesterday gave the go-ahead for Patrick Kluivert to lead Holland's challenge for the European championship. Kluivert, the Ajax striker whose experience belies his 19 years, was found guilty of causing death by dangerous driving, but escaped the prison sentence that he and Guus Hiddink, the Holland coach, had feared.

Instead, Kluivert received a three-month prison sentence suspended for two years, 240 hours community service and was banned from driving for 18 months. The charge followed an incident last September in which a 56-year-old man died.

Although Kluivert may appeal, the outcome was good news for the Dutch, who would have sorely missed his presence in attack. As it is, Holland have picked a full-strength squad with Jordi Cruyff, the son of Johan Cruyff, perhaps the only surprise, given that he only recently made his international debut but after years of wavering between playing for Holland or Spain. Dennis Bergkamp, of Arsenal, is included; Ruud Gullit, of Chelsea, who has retired from international football, is not.

There are two England-based players in the Bulgaria squad announced yesterday — Boris Mikhailov, the Reading goalkeeper, and Bontcho Guentchev, the Luton Town striker.

BULGARIA (European championship): B Mikhailov (Reading), D Popov (CSKA Sofia), Z Zvezkov (Steve Scott), E Stoyanov (CSKA Sofia), V Todorov (PFC Tsvetkov (Varna)), T Todorov (Vardar), M Mihaylov (PFC Tsvetkov (Varna)), G Ganchev (Spartak (Plovdiv)), I Krivak (Anthonov (Pampushka)), I Yordanov (Sporting (Lom)), Z Tenev (KFC (Varna)), V Tenev (PFC Tsvetkov (Varna)), K Balakov (Vardar), N Stoykov (Steve Scott), G Donkov (CSKA Sofia), E Kostadinov (Bayern Munich), H Stoeckl (Parma), L Penov (Allito (Asenov (Varna)), V Tenev (Varna), B Guentchev (Luton Town).

HOLLAND (European championship): E van der Sar (Ajax), E de Goey (Feyenoord), R Heij (Roda JC Kerkrade), R Krol (PSV), R van Persie (PSV), A Numan (PSV), Endonck, J de Kock (Roda JC Kerkrade), J Valdano (Spurs), J Verhaegh (PSV), R van Persie (Ajax), P Coetz (PSV), Endonck, R Wijnberg (Borussia), C Sandor (Villarreal), A Varela (Internacional), P Hofkens (PSV), J Verhaegh (PSV), Y Mulder (Feyenoord), J Cruyff (Barcelona), D Bergkamp (Arsenal).



Sir Bobby and Richards watch the youngsters go through their paces in the specially-arranged skill session. Photograph: Dan Chung

Knight salutes minor celebrity

Rob Hughes, football correspondent, sees one of the game's greats pay tribute to the tireless dedication of an unsung hero

Behind every great man of sport, there are a thousand unheralded volunteers who lay the seed beds for their progress. Sir Bobby Charlton, acknowledging this, touring the eight cities preparing for the European football championship, honouring local grassroots workers — ambassadors for the game, he calls them.

In Birmingham yesterday he met Steve Richards, who founded the Walsall Minor League 60 years ago, has served on the Staffordshire Youth FA and, to this day, is acting treasurer of his local junior charity competition. "A phenomenal record covering more than I have had on this earth," Charlton said.

Richards, a small and stocky man with crystal clear recollection, said that he was overwhelmed to have been nominated, let alone to have been called an ambassador for his game. "People use that word as such a grand title," Richards said at a Northfield park where some 100 youngsters had been gathered for a day of skills training with Sir Bobby, "but I have no delusions of grandeur, I'm just an ordinary person who has a

love of football. I've had the greatest pleasure to enjoy myself ever since I discovered what a beautiful game it was." He recalls that day precisely. He was 12 years old and a player in Queen Mary's School Second XI, and he saw the Corinthians visit Walsall for the third round of the FA Cup and, though they were past their best, beat Walsall 4-0.

"They played with such skill and speed that 15,000 people in my town had never seen before," Richards said. "We haven't seen skills like that here for a very long time either. Of course I remember 1966, though I had no television and listened to it on radio, but, in the past ten years we've had this long ball stuff, and thank goodness there are one or two teams — Newcastle, certainly, the Villa, Manchester United — who are beginning to prove that English players have the skill if only we will redirect it the way it was meant to be played."

Charlton privately recalled that two school teachers, J. K. Hamilton, his former head-

old, this man of almost 82. His mind has a clearer grasp of the issues and the failings of the game, and, in the company of youngsters, you can see how he sustained his remarkable input and what football gave him back.

Richards never married. He worked for 49 years for a rubber company in Birmingham, starting in a laboratory and concluding as works director. He cared for his mother who was housebound with acute arthritis for 25 years and was 47 before he lost that responsibility. By then, all the hours that he had spare were devoted to administering his work.

"This man," Charlton told his small audience, "has had a magical and phenomenal time in the game. It may be difficult for you to understand, but, without people like him, neither you or I could ever have enjoyed this game."

Charlton privately recalled that two school teachers, J. K. Hamilton, his former head-

master, and a primary school mistress whom he knew only as Miss Houston, had directly influenced his opportunities.

"When I passed the 11-plus, I was due to go to a rugby school," he said, "but Mr Hamilton went to the authorities, and had it changed so that I went to a school that played football. Miss Houston was pretty special, too; I remember just after the war she took down the blackout curtains and made 20 sets of shorts for our team."

Charlton's initiative is being financed by Mastercard International and Martianne Fulgenzi, the company's director of special events marketing, said: "This project was Bobby's inspiration. He's so pure in his thinking when it comes to football and, when we sat down to devise a human project for Euro 96, he spoke of the need to correct the image abroad of English football as a hooligan nation."

"He really insisted that we show the positive side, and we were really surprised when,

with only three months' preparation, we received 318 nominations of people such as Steve Richards."

Mention of a sponsor on the playing fields of the young somehow encapsulates the life of Bobby Charlton. He is a symbol of a very commercial world — a director of Manchester United, a director of the wealthiest football club, a paid spokesman for MasterCard, a representative travelling the world on behalf of the Japan 2002 World Cup bid.

He has seen goalposts erected right in front of a Budweiser in Rangoon, and witnessed children playing in Indonesia on a football field that had 20 palm trees scattered on the pitch, but he seemed genuinely humbled before Richards.

Charlton, and others, kept repeating that Richards had given so much to the game. What they missed was that it was football that had given Richards so much: a life. Last weekend, in bitter cold, he manned the gate at a local youth cup final; last night, he was back where it all began, at Walsall Football Club, for the Minor League's Buller final. Life and the game turning full circle.

He does not sound so very

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

SIXTEEN matches played, three to go. Though there is not a "competitive" fixture among them, England still expects and Terry Venables, the coach, retains high hopes of delivering. At Bisham Abbey yesterday, the countdown to the European football championship finals at last took on a touch of realism.

Long gone are warm-up games against Greece, Nigeria, Uruguay and such like, with the abundance of ifs, buts, and maybes of the past 28 months having been whittled down to no more than a series of minor, manageable selection problems. Venables, whose brief international tenure will end after Euro 96, cast a relaxed, almost casual, eye over his squad's progress.

Rob Jones, the Liverpool full back, has had to be erased from his thoughts — a persistent back injury requires rest and recuperation — but Darren Anderton, Tony Adams and Alan Shearer are back in contention. Barring further complications, they should be available when England kick off against Switzerland on June 8.

Shearer underwent groin surgery last month and,

though he sat out full-scale training yesterday and will probably miss the game against Hungary at Wembley on Saturday, he should feature prominently in the fixtures against China, in Peking on May 23, and Hong Kong, on May 26. Only then, before the May 29 deadline, will Venables replace pencil with pen and decide his final, 22-strong squad.

"It's great news to have the injured lads back," he said. "I could have been saying 'When in doubt, leave them out', but I don't have to now."

Knee trouble forced Adams to miss out as Arsenal secured a UEFA Cup place at the end of the season and, apart from appearing in Paul Merson's testimonial match at Highbury last week, he has not played since mid-January. Anderton, out for seven months after surgery to re-

move a cyst and scar tissue from his groin, returned for only three full matches for Tottenham Hotspur.

Yet they are now likely to play against Hungary, increasing Venables's options at a vital stage of his preparations. "It is not out of the question," he said. "Giving them games is the only way to find out if they're ready."

Both believe that they are Adams said yesterday: "I knew I was running out of time and I was getting anxious, but the knee feels fine now. I should be OK for Saturday, but, if it doesn't feel right, I'll tell Terry." Anderton said: "I feel fit."

Venables made a reconnaissance trip to Peking last week, after expressing concern about the state of the pitch in the Workers' Stadium, but is now satisfied that the Chinese authorities will have improved the surface. "Everyone was very apologetic and they've promised to get it sorted out. It should be fine," he said.

Ted Buxton, England's chief scout, will travel out this week to check that the remedial instructions have not been misinterpreted. "The language barrier was a bit awkward," Venables said. "I asked for a roller and they came out with a Rolls-Royce."



Venables barks out his instructions at Bisham Abbey as Anderton stands by. Photograph: Tony Marshall

O'Neill plans to stem rise of Stoke

LOU MACARI's achievements at Stoke City this season should have made him a strong contender for the manager-of-the-year award (Peter Bell writes). Forced to work with limited resources, he has taken the club to within two

games of a place in the FA Carling Premiership.

The first of these is played to-night against Leicester City at the Victoria Ground and is the second leg of their Endslight Insurance League first division play-off semi-

final. The victors will go on to play for that hallowed Premiership place at Wembley on May 27.

Stoke, having secured a goalless draw at Filbert Street on Sunday, appear to have a marginal advantage, but Martin O'Neill, the Leicester manager, said: "We still have a good chance. They played very well on Sunday, but they might be a better team playing on the break than at home where the onus is on them."

That semi-final stands evenly balanced, but the other, between Crystal Palace and Charlton at Selhurst Park, is tilted firmly in Palace's direction after their 2-1 victory in the first leg at The Valley.

In the second division, Blackpool hold a 2-0 lead over Bradford City, while Crewe Alexandra are away to Notts County, who came back from 20 down to secure a draw in the first leg.

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Ted Buxton, England's chief

RADIO CHOICE

All the fun of the square

A Square of One's Own. Radio 4. 11.00pm.

Some might say that Ivan Shakespeare's four-part parody of the stuff of Gordon Square was itself the stuff of parody. Nothing daunted, Shakespeare has cooked up a broadly humorous spoof with the occasional jab of wit. Upmarket soap-opera, he calls it, and I would not quarrel with that. Lyton Strychnine (Toby Longworth) is the storyteller, and you will instantly identify his real-life model and the originals of Clive and Vanessa Pilk, Vita Sackville-West and Virginia Woolf. Shakespeare (Ivan) and some members of his cast have won Radio 4's current affairs satire, *Week Ending*. So you will know, more or less, what you are in for tonight.

Die Tote Stadt. Radio 3. 7.30pm.

Inexplicably few and far between have been broadcasts of the non-musical music of Erich Wolfgang Korngold. The world knows him best for his emotional and swashbuckling scores for such Hollywood movies as *The Adventures of Robin Hood*, *King's Row* and *The Sea Hawk*. Quite simply, it is not possible to mistake his film music for anyone else's. *Die Tote Stadt* (*The Dead City*) is, without doubt, the best of his five operas. Tonight's recorded performance, in German, was given last December at the Antwerp Opera. William Cochran is the widower and Cynthia Makris the dancer whom he throttles to death.

Peter Davall

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Charlie Jordan 6.30 Chris Evans 8.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa Tandon 2.00 Andy Campbell 4.00 Max Goodwin and al 5.30-6.45 Newsbeat 6.15 The Net and al at 6.30 The Mo 7.00 Evening Session 9.00 Alan Parker — Road Warrior 10.00 Mark Radcliffe 12.00 Wendy Loyd

RADIO 2

FM Stereo 6.00am Charlie Jordan 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pauses for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce, Ind at 10.00 Pick of the Hits 11.30 Jim Kerr 12.00 Top of the Pops 1.00 Steve Doherty 2.00 John Durn 7.00 I'm Jigged with Folk on 2.00 In Good Voice (36) 8.30 Back On the Road (46) 9.00 Doomsday in the Afternoon (33) 9.30 Nigel Ogden 10.30 The Jameson 12.05men Steve Macdonald 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, incl 6.55 7.55 Racing preview 8.35 The Magazine with Diana Moll, incl 10.35 Eurovisions 11.00 Wildlife News 12.00 Monday with Michael 12.30 The Morning Show 1.00 1.15 Entertainment News 2.00 Russia on 4.00 4.55 Entertainment News 7.00 News Extra 7.30 7.45 Sport 8.00 8.30 Tomorrows 9.00 9.30 Jamie Clegg 6.00 Newsnight 6.30 Sonata 7.00 Gardening Forum 9.00 9.30 Evening Concert 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00ms McCooper 3.00 Alex Lester

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jon 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Nicky Home 7.30 Paul Coyle 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00 Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. Introduced by Penny Gore. Includes, D'Indy (Symphonie sur un chant montagnard français); Stand (Serenade in F, Op 94); Schubert (Piano Sonata in D, Op 505); J.C. Bach (Trio Sonata in F); Dvořák (Sinfonia in E flat, Op 95); Stradella (Sinfonia in F); Schubert (Piano Sonata in D, Op 150); J.C. Bach (Trio Sonata in F); Dvořák (The Golden Spinning-Wheel); Composer of the Month; Gardener of the Month; Sarah Connolly, soprano, and Ivan Sheafe, tenor. The Flanders Opera Chorus and The RPO of Flanders under Soltesz. Sung in German. See Choice. 7.00 Morning Collection with Paul Griffiths 6.00 Mike Read (2nd Concerto); Simon Birrell 2.00 Concerto 3.00 Jamie Clegg 6.00 Newsnight 6.30 Sonata 7.00 Night Extra at 11.15 Financial Times. 7.00 12.00pm After Hours 2.05 Up All Night

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Grindley 6.00 Mike Read (2nd Concerto); Simon Birrell 12.00 Concerto 3.00 Jamie Clegg 6.00 Newsnight 6.30 Sonata 7.00 Night Extra at 11.15 Financial Times. 7.00 12.00pm After Hours 2.05 Up All Night

7.30pm CLASSICAL

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8.00pm CLASSICAL

The fatal attraction of volcanic eruptions

The great film critic Dilys Powell was fond of defending the westerns on the grounds that, visually, cowboys riding across a landscape on a big screen was the purest cinema. It's quite true, when you think about it. Big arid rock bathed in ruddy light, American panorama, and the thunder of hooves from right to left. On television last night, I discovered that the equivalent for the small screen is the same contrast of little person and big landscape, but the person has to stand still. For example, in the police saga *Frontiers* (TV), each of the two protagonists has interludes when he stands in front of an enormous, futuristic lightbox (pretending to be a window) and chews a finger. Superintendent Jarratt has a round window, and Superintendent Kristen has a square window. Amazingly, *Frontiers* takes itself so exclusively seriously that thoughts of *Play School* are banished.

But last night's *Consumed by Fire* (BBC2) was the visual highlight of the week. Concerning two married French "volcanologists", this 45-minute film was packed with fabulous footage of scarlet-flamed volcanoes spitting smoke behind tensed silhouetted figures in the foreground. The title referred both to the engulfing passion of Maurice and Karine Kraft (both died in 1991 by a volcanic "glowing cloud" in Japan, which billowed silently, lethally, and at enormous speed. The Krafts had set up their cameras six miles from the volcano. It sounds a safe distance, but wasn't. This was not a film to teach you about geology. Nor was it very clear what research the Krafts were engaged in. At one point, Maurice referred to "a basaltic

eruption", which sounded hopeful

— but it was like those friendships you have sometimes, when you never asked an important question, and it's now too late. By the time Maurice mentioned basalt, we had followed the Krafts to eruptions in Zaire, Java and Hawaii, and were much too intimate to start getting technical. I began to think that Maurice was right, however. A life without seeing a volcano erupt did seem pretty worthless. Thick, rose-pink clouds hung in the sky, solid and static as paint; boiling rock, blistered, curled, split, and dripped into hissing water; and there were more red skies at night than a delighted shepherd ever dreamt of.

Back in the more mundane blue-black world of *South Morton and West Morton* (gosh, I wish I could remember which is which), *Frontiers* followed up its impressive feature-

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

length opener last week with a decent hour of crime detection and lots of hard-boiled lines from which the prefix "I'm warning you" had been silently removed. In *Frontiers*, most scenes entail a threat of some kind; it makes the pulse quicken just thinking about it. Afterwards I found myself getting tough around the house. "I'm warning you," I told the cat in no uncertain terms. "It's nearly time

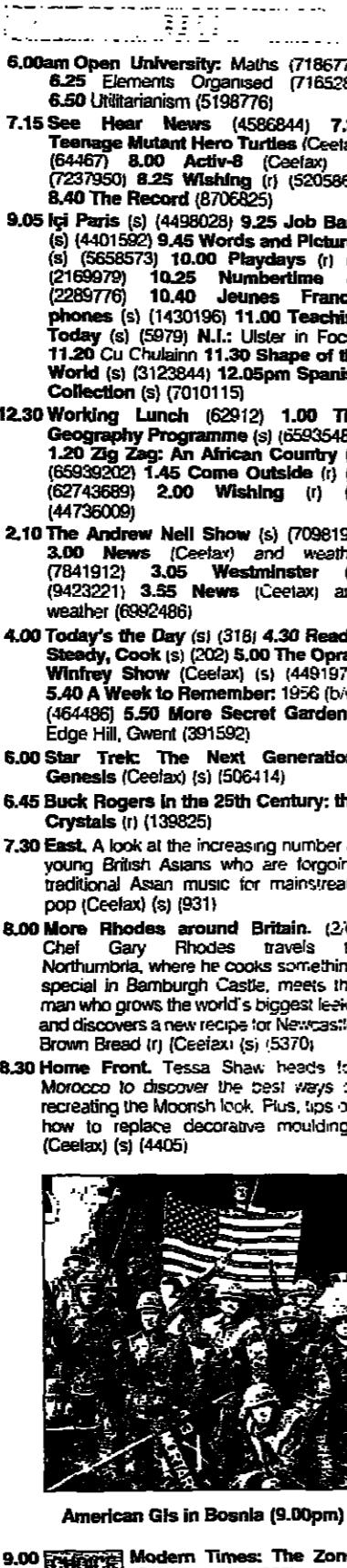
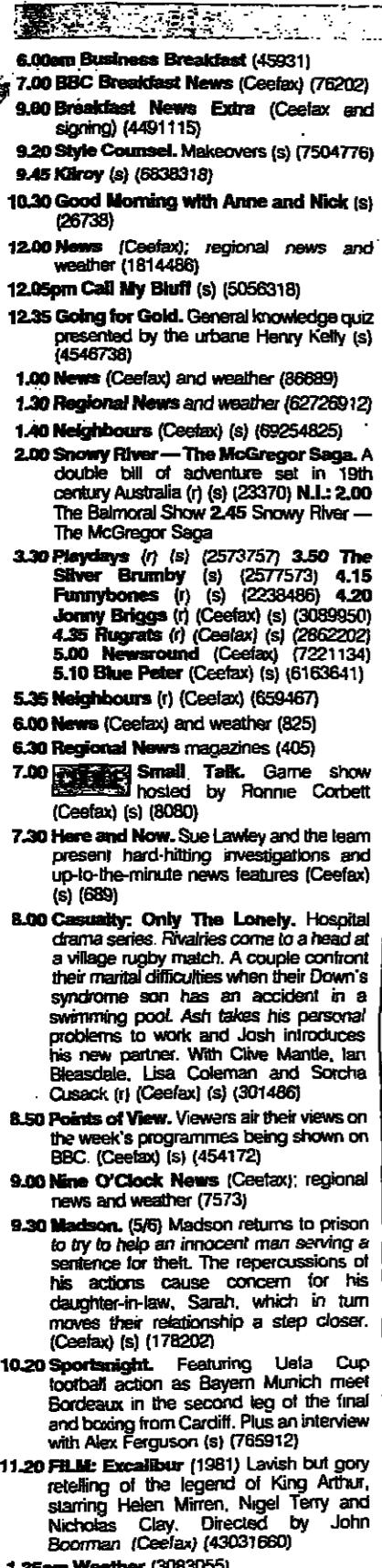
for bed." Later he jumped on the bed, as I read a magazine. "Just stay off my patch," I snarled.

The story, which each week must feature conflicting policing styles, this week highlighted firearms policy. Kirsten (Kevin McNally) hated guns, and since his maverick leather-jacketed detective, Spader (Howel Bennett), carried weapons for personal use, gave him a pretty stiff warning, laced with threats. Happily, however, Spader was alone on the scene when an armed gang of young punks raided a bank. Unlocking the boot of his car, Spader wearily reached in and withdrew an armament with the weight and appearance of a rocket. Hooray. *Frontiers* is a superior product, but like all modern police series it's about style of hand: it's the filmic style and gritty script distract viewers from noticing the basic fairy-story underneath. The universally applauded *Cracker*

drives me mad in this respect. Take away the trappings of Fitz's personality and you are left with a mortal man whose brain is sufficient against all evil. No wonder people vote for him at Bafta; it's like voting for God. The all-knowing deductions of Fitz make him the modern equivalent of Sherlock Holmes — in short, an infallible psychologist! It's amazing they can make us fall for that.

On BBC1, *Knife to the Heart* reached its third week. Quiet, un hurried, this history of transplant surgery last night explored the repercussions of a breakthrough: the widespread availability of drugs to inhibit organ rejection. Once such drugs were produced, there ensued a bonanza of organ swapping, sometimes of questionable value to the recipient, but jolly good for science. Was Laura Davies a human

guinea pig? The issues were complicated. A man in Mississippi received the first heart-lung transplant, and woke up to find he could breathe "better than ever in his life". His lips were pink instead of blue. It was very touching. But some organ recipients have hated the drugs so much that they have refused to take them. Fifteen-year-old Benni Agrelo (evidently he would rather die than live in pain). And in a court case evocative of *Whose Life Is It Anyway?*, he was granted permission to die if he wanted to. An extraordinary, articulate boy, with no apparent aspirations to sainthood, his resolve was tremendously impressive. Asked on television whether he wouldn't like another liver transplant, "I believe that would be futile," he explained. "People are worse off than me. I'm grateful for what I was given. I mean, somebody had to be Benni."



CHOICE

Small Talk

BBC2, 7.00pm

British education standards are on the line as a bunch of youngsters, aged between six and nine, are asked to name the capital of France. First up is Delphine, "Germany," she replies. It can only get better and besides this is not one of Gillian Shephard's national curriculum tests but a cheerful little game show presided over by cheerful little Ronnie Corbett. But whether trying to name France's capital, or revealing whether they have been kissed by a girlfriend/boyfriend, the children are the stars. They should be competing for the dream holiday, not the grown-ups who have to guess which way the youthful answers will go. *University Challenge* is it not, but nobody should deny these tots their fun. One day they might be students and back on television to face a rottweiler from Jeremy Paxman.

Modern Times: The Zone

BBC2, 9.00pm

Here is a documentary from the former Yugoslavia that is not primarily about fighting and death. Daniel Reed's film is set in the Zone of Separation between the Bosnian Serb Republic and the Muslim-Croatian Federation. This vast area, 2½ miles wide, of battlefields, abandoned towns and shattered villages, is policed mainly by Russian and American soldiers. It is the first instance of such co-operation since the end of the Second World War and Reed brings out the cultural differences between the two nationalities during the worst winter in the region for 21 years. The GIs plod merrily through the mud and snow; the Russians practise their goosesteps; and both sides are cynical about the peace lasting beyond their withdrawal in December.

Dispatches

Channel 4, 9.00pm

The current affairs series boasts a television first by getting a teacher to go undercover in her own school to reveal the level of aggression and violence. She shows how teaching often comes second to a daily battle against disruptive behaviour and her report, from a school by no means at the bottom of the league tables, features incidents with a knife and gun. The programme cites a survey among 20,000 schoolchildren, which discloses that a significant number take weapons into school because they feel the need to defend themselves. A boy who claims that guns can easily be acquired by children says: "You can't just stand there and let other people take liberties with you." Highlighting the problem is easier than solving it, but a college principal from the North East describes his attempts to reduce violence in the classroom.

Postcards From the Country

BBC2, 9.30pm

Richard Mabey's exploration of the changing face of rural Britain takes him to the extreme northern tip. As far from Edinburgh as the Scottish capital is from London, Shetland may be remote but its labyrinth of islets have not been immune from outside forces. The herring industry used to be king, until the Scandinavians came along with their bigger boats and superior technology. The Sullom Voe oil terminal brought in money and created badly-needed jobs but was a big upheaval for a traditional way of life. But Mabey's film is a celebration of things that have endured, such as Shetland's rich variety of seabirds, as well as activities such as crofting that are in probably terminal decline. But despite the incursions of the 20th century Shetland still has road signs which give warning of "Otters Crossing".

SKY MOVIES

7.00pm *Curse of the Mummies* (1978) 5.25 The Big Country (1958) 6.30 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles* (1990) 7.15 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles II* (1991) 7.30 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles III* (1993) 7.45 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles IV* (1994) 7.50 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles V* (1995) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles VI* (1996) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles VII* (1997) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles VIII* (1998) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles IX* (1999) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles X* (2000) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles XI* (2001) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles XII* (2002) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles XIII* (2003) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles XIV* (2004) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles XV* (2005) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles XVI* (2006) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles XVII* (2007) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles XVIII* (2008) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles XVII* (2009) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles XVIII* (2010) 7.55 *Teenage Mutant 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WEDNESDAY MAY 15 1996

Warwickshire's run halted

Lloyd inspires
Lancashire
to late triumph

BY IVO TENNANT

OLD TRAFFORD (Warwickshire won toss); Lancashire (2pts) beat Warwickshire by one wicket

WARRICKSHIRE had won every match that they had contested this season, barring one that was ruined by rain. There was little doubt, until the closing overs yesterday, that they had the beating of Lancashire, too, in a Benson and Hedges Cup match to determine which county would have a home draw in the quarter-finals. Somehow, they managed to lose it.

Lancashire required 313 and, for much of their innings, were behind the run-rate. What they did manage, though, were contributions all the way down the order. Lloyd effectively won the match, batting as he can rarely have batted before against such testing opposition, shepherding the tail, if such useful batsmen can be so described, and achieving victory off the penultimate ball when nine wickets were down.

Watkinson had chosen to open with Atherton and, to an

extent, this came off. They had put on 50 by the seventh over, the disparity in their techniques no disadvantage in this form of the game. The shuffling of the batting order continued when Austin was sent in at No 4, which meant that only 17 overs remained when Fairbairn came to the wicket with all too little time to smell the roses. A tactical error, it seemed at the time.

Warwickshire's excellence in the field seemed to put paid to that. Reeve likes to position himself closer to the bat than most extra-cover fieldsmen, and it was there that he held a mistimed cover drive by Crawley. Ten runs later, Gallian was brilliantly held low down by Brown at deep square leg off the same bowler, Welch. The best catch of all came when Paul Smith plucked one down at mid-wicket to account for Chapple. The bowler? Reeve, of course.

That seemed to be that. Lancashire's strength in limited-overs cricket, however, is their depth in batting. That was the case when they were winning the Gillette Cup in the 1970s. Hegg, Yates and Chapple all contributed and Martin, the last man in, is a good enough batsman to have scored a first-class century. From the last six overs, Lancashire needed 46, then 22 of those and 17 from the last two.

When Chapple was out, Lancashire required 21 from their last pair. Astonishingly, Pollock conceded 14 runs off the penultimate over and Reeve, entrusting himself with the last over, could not prevent Lancashire from taking three runs off it. Lloyd, who scored 63 from 40 balls, including six fours, won the gold award.

Watkinson began with an opening stand of 97 in 13 overs between Knight and Neil Smith. Ostler and Fenney made useful contributions in the middle of the innings and Pollock and Brown added 82 in the final 11 overs, which, it appeared at the time, was match-winning batting. Pollock's half-century came off 44 balls and included four fours and a six.



Hancock, who was later to exert a vital influence with the ball, is run out by a throw from Stephenson, the Hampshire captain

Hancock's brief spell of magic decisive

BY ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

BRISTOL (Hampshire won toss); Gloucestershire (2pts) beat Hampshire by 21 runs

CRICKET played this can simultaneously baffle, enthrall and depress. A considerable crowd at Nevil Road was excited by constant fluctuations and cheered by the victory that secured a Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-final for Gloucestershire, but a detached analysis was enough to make one weep for the standards in domestic one-day cricket.

Hampshire will be painfully aware that they could have won this tie — effectively an eliminator — but for some cavalier batting when only pragmatism was required. Gloucestershire, equally, must concede that they had earlier squandered an ideal platform for their innings with some curiously frenetic batting that, against stronger

opposition, would have been ruinous.

After so much that was misguided or misapplied, it was perhaps appropriate that the game turned on the introduction of Tim Hancock for a rare bowl. Hancock, called into action only through an injury sustained in the field by Kevin Cooper, took three wickets for two in his first two overs of seamers as Hampshire, who had required less than a run a ball with six wickets in hand, fell messily on their sword.

No one was more culpable than Winston Benjamin, for no one had been so obviously capable of winning the game.

Promoted to No 5, he used a blend of savagery and sophistication to put Hampshire in charge for the first time. He had made 43 from 36 balls and believed the force was with him. Rather than take singles, with the field deep set, he tried to hit Hancock out of the ground and was caught at long-off.

Hampshire's momentum

was thus punctured and, as Stephenson and Whitaker fell under Hancock's spell, Gloucestershire never again looked seriously at risk. The book-making firm who offered them at 80-1 for this competition only last week may have winced but nobody there need suffer too many sleepless nights unless Gloucestershire sharpen up aspects of their game before the quarter-final.

Wright and Dawson played confidently through the first hour after being put in by Hampshire. At 65 without loss, in the fourteenth over, they could think positively of 300.

In consecutive overs, however, the openers were dismissed. Hancock was then run out by a direct hit from Stephenson, at mid-on and Symonds drilled Maru to Morris at extra cover.

Hampshire were now ahead on points, but Cundiff and Alleyne wrested back the initiative with a stand of 113 in 15 overs, much the best batting of the game.

Both were out in the final flurries, Cundiff having validated the many high opinions of him in these parts while Alleyne, whose 75 occupied only 53 balls, reiterated the silky quality of his strokeplay. Gloucestershire now had an imposing total.

Gloucestershire's seamers dropped short too often on a pitch where there was scant margin for error and Hampshire reached 113-1 when the first over of spin shifted the balance once more. Davis first had Morris smoothly stumped, then induced a stiff push to mid-on from Smith.

While James, who showed the benefit of three second-team centuries, and Benjamin were together, Hampshire remained on course. They were blown off it by remarkable bowling or fielding but by their own flawed instincts.

SCOREBOARD FROM BRISTOL

GLOUCESTERSHIRE		HAMPSHIRE	
A J Wright lbw b James	31	R S M Morris b Russel b Davis	36
B J Dawson c Benjamin b Maru	33	J Cundiff b Maru b Cooper	33
R J Cooper c Maru b Maru	33	K D James run out	56
T H C Hancock run out	10	R A Smith c Alleyne b Davis	1
A Symonds c Morris b Maru	28	P R Whitaker c Maru b Hancock	43
M J Stephenson c Cooper b Maru	6	J P Morris c Cooper b Hancock	6
R C Russell run out	2	A N Alleyne run out	17
R P Davis c Cooper b Maru	2	M J Morris c Davis b Maru	32
A M Smith not out	6	R J Maru not out	6
Extras (b 3, w 6) 272	9	Total (49.2 overs) 251	251
Total (50 wkt, 50 overs) 272	9	Score at 15 overs: 75-1.	
Score at 20 overs: 125-2		1-71, 2-71, 3-113, 4-128,	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-65, 2-68, 3-88, 4-103,		4-103, 5-105, 6-105, 7-105, 8-231, 9-233,	
5-203, 6-218, 7-241, 8-274, 9-282		10-270, 11-272, 12-272, 13-272	
BOWLING: Pollock 10-0-65-1; Brown 9-1-65-1; Hegg 8-0-53-3; P. A. Smith 2-0-19-2; Welch 7-0-43-2; Cooper 7-0-43-2; Maru 10-0-56-0.		14-0-49-2; James 2-0-20-0; Morris 10-0-43-2; Cundiff 10-0-57-0; Maru 10-0-41-1.	
LANCASHIRE	15	Gold award: G D Lloyd	
M A Atherton lbw b Giles		Umpires: J H Harris and B Leedster.	

HELLO MR WALDEN

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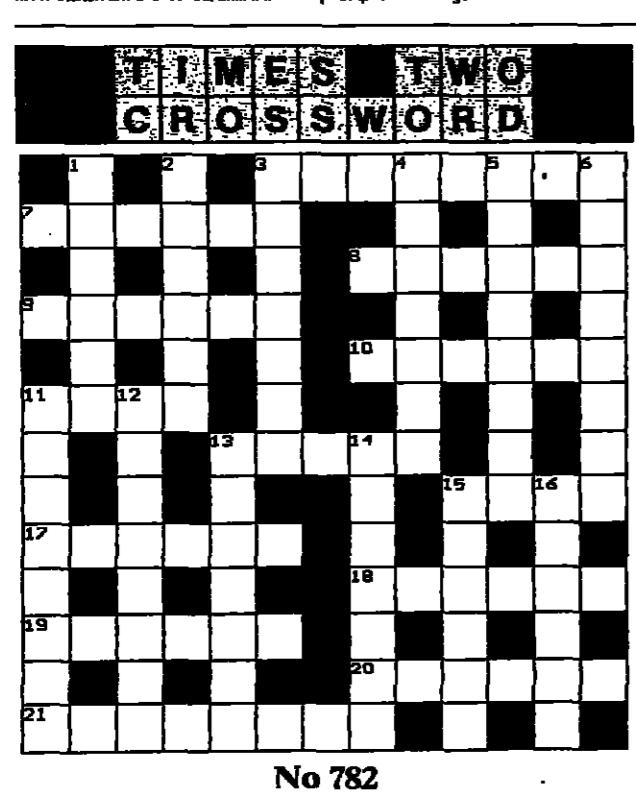
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No 782

ACROSS
3 Relieved of weapons, suspicious (6)
21 Poor verse (6)
DOWN
1 A pledge, guarantee (6)
2 Cut marks in (6)
3 File of papers (7)
4 Cotton state, Mobile its port (7)
5 Herman —, Moby-Dick author (8)
6 Towards bottom of slope (8)
11 Misled (8)
12 Fire-starting material (8)
13 Reward worth (6)
14 Must; get in order (7)
15 Say no; rubbish (6)
16 Clothing (6)

SOLUTION TO NO 781
ACROSS: 6 Believe you me, 7 Divide, 8 Turban, 9 Belt, 10 Decimate, 12 Cherubic, 16 Kit, 18 Profit, 20 Regale, 21 Black economy
DOWN: 1 Cloister, 2 Behead, 3 Hectic, 4 Dour, 5 Impart, 6 Beige, 11 Make good, 13 Herald, 14 Butler, 15 Cordon, 17 Tally, 19 Fair

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD 777
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ACROSS: 6 Statue, 7 Tulip, 9 Circa, 10 Sanctum, 11 Business end, 14 Iron curtain, 17 Dead end, 19 Wedge, 21 Recur, 22 Arraignment
DOWN: 1 Gain, 2 Jurassic, 3 Session, 4 Stun, 5 Slattern, 6 Sick, 8 Pomade, 10 Biopathy, 12 Star Wars, 13 Pindar, 15 Red rag, 16 Peril, 18 Eye, 20 Dais

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Emerson moves to Robson's beat

BY PETER BALL

THE BRAZILIAN rhythms will be even stronger at Middlesbrough next season. The FA Carling Premiership club yesterday paid FC Porto £4 million for Emerson, the midfield player, to link up with Juninho and Branco.

"He's competitive, he wants to win, he's strong, he can tackle, he's a great passer and he can dictate the pace," Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, said. "Bobby [Robson, the Porto manager] is supposed to have said that Emerson reminds him of me."

Emerson, who holds a Portuguese passport, was greeted

by 500 supporters when he arrived on Teesside to sign yesterday. If he lives up to his billing, Emerson will be a formidable asset for Middlesbrough alongside his fellow Brazilians.

"The demands of the English game won't bother him," Robson said. "Some judges say that he's similar to Paul Ince. He's strong and he links well. What is without doubt is that he's another piece of the jigsaw here."

The influence of Bobby Robson and the presence of Juninho played their part in persuading Emerson to move to Middlesbrough. "I have never played with Juninho,"

Emerson said, "but he has shown he is a great player and I am looking forward to doubling up with him."

Emerson is unlikely to be the last Middlesbrough signing of the summer. Robson confirmed yesterday that the club is negotiating with a couple of strikers. One of them is probably Mikkel Beck, Fortuna Köln's Denmark forward, and Robson has been linked with Jürgen Klinsmann and Gianluca Vialli.

■ Aberdeen yesterday completed the transfer of Bulgaria's international midfielder, Ilian Kirikov, for £400,000 from Anorthosis Famagusta in Cyprus.

Griffiths decides to bow out at top

Phil Yates celebrates the career of a player who holds a unique place in snooker history

GRIFFITHS has packed away his cue while still occupying a relatively lofty position in the world rankings. Griffiths stands 23rd on the list for next season and, as a member of the seeded top 32 players on the circuit, was guaranteed total prize-money of £21,215 without putting a ball.

He turned professional at the age of 30 in 1978, after twice winning the English amateur championship, but experienced a demoralising introduction. On his professional debut, he lost 9-8 to Rex Williams in a preliminary round of the United Kingdom championship after being 8-2 ahead.

However, it is primarily dignity, pride of performance and the realisation that he is a player in decline, which have led Griffiths to leave the competitive arena. "Playing badly and not doing myself justice is not my idea of how I should finish," Griffiths said. He made the decision during a week of soul-searching after the world championship earlier this month.

It is the first time that a former champion has packed away his cue while still occupying a relatively lofty position in the world rankings. Griffiths stands 23rd on the list for next season and, as a member of the seeded top 32 players on the circuit, was guaranteed total prize-money of £21,215 without putting a ball.

The ex-apprentice blacksmith, postman, insurance agent and bus conductor went on to win the Benson and Hedges Masters in 1980 and the Irish Masters in 1980, 1981 and 1982, the year in which he also won the United Kingdom championship. The arrival of Steve Davis on the snooker scene, however, prevented him from developing into a dominant force. Ironically, their second-round meeting in the world championship at the Crucible this year, which Davis won 13-8, could be the last match that Griffiths plays at a venue with which he will always be linked.

Ever the technician, Griffiths, who edged out Jamie Burnett 10-9 on the black in the previous round, analysed both contests on video afterwards and was not impressed by what he saw. "My standard was poor; it's good that I am finishing," he said, with characteristic realism.

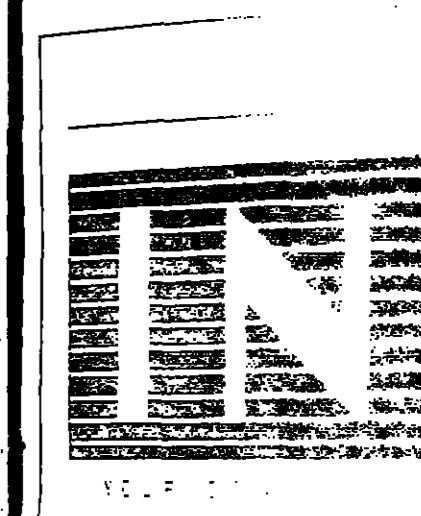
Griffiths has, however, left his options open with regard to participating in the 1997 world championship. He has the summer to decide whether to sever all competitive ties. There are many in snooker who hope that he does not.

Griffiths' coaching role

ALICE O'CALLAGHAN PHOTOFEST/UPA



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